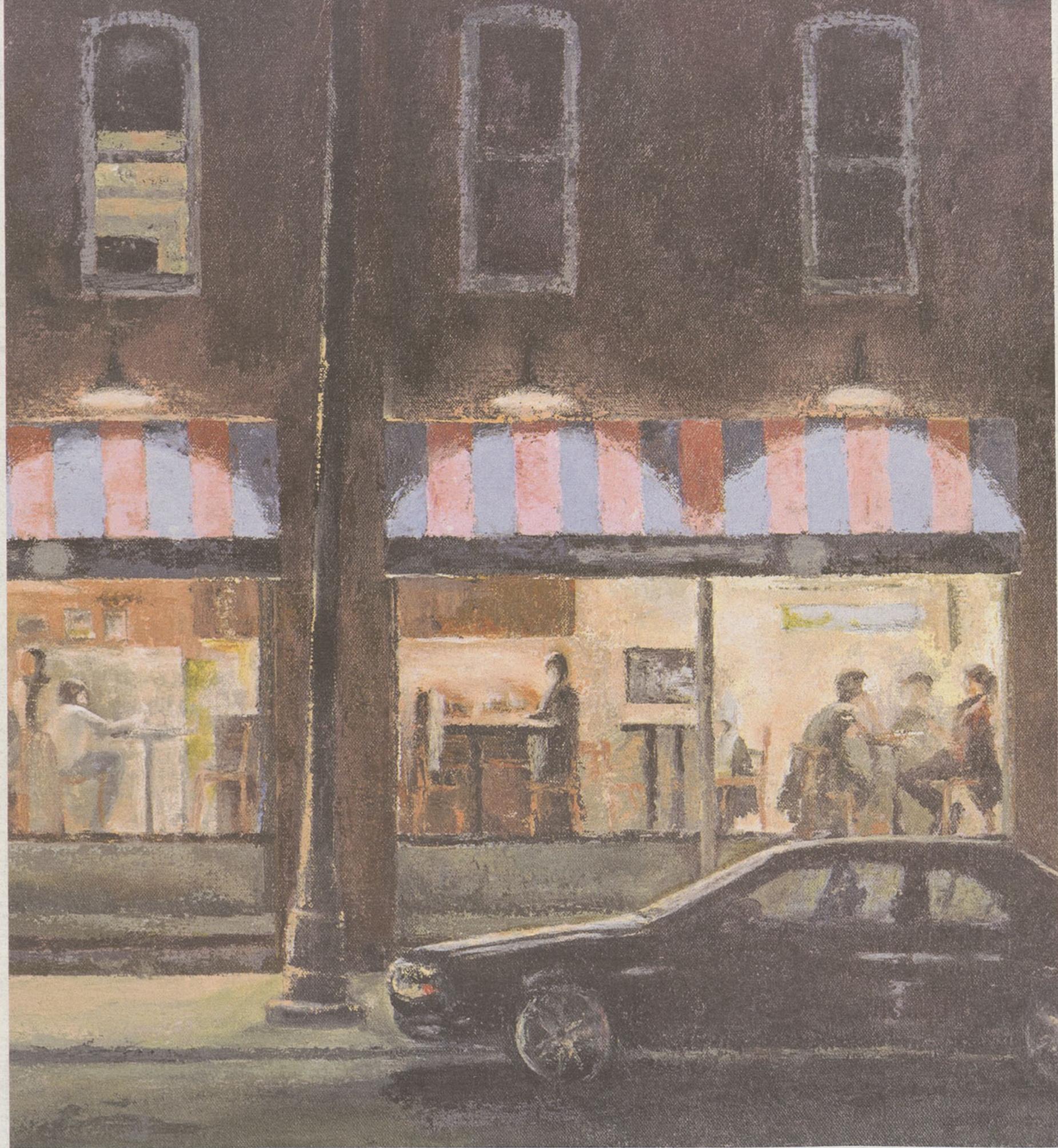


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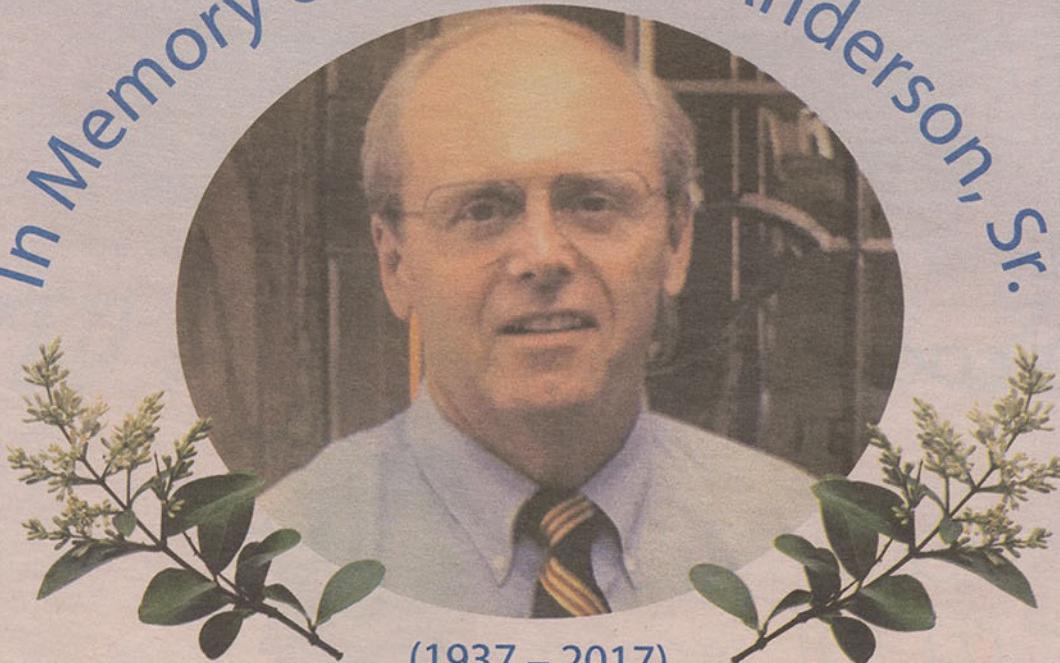
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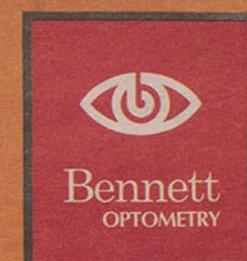
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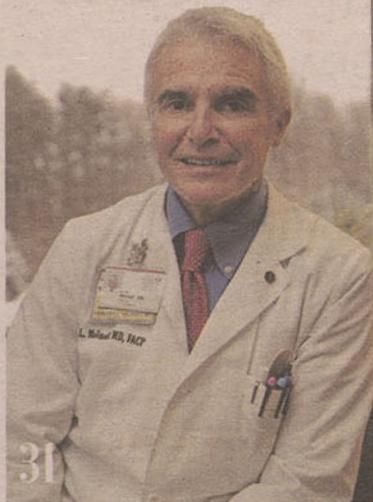
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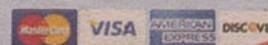
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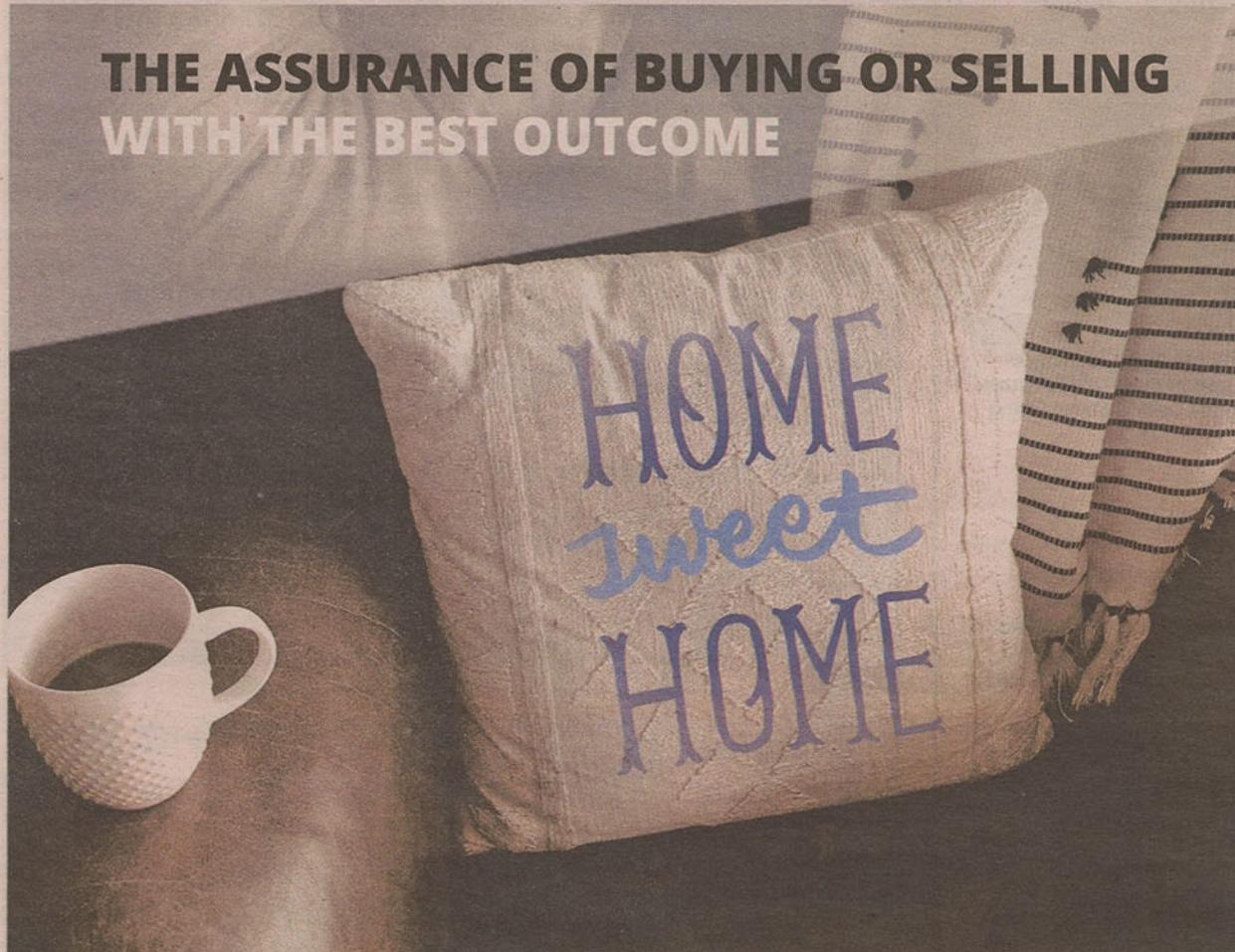
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UpFront

Pot politics: "We're trying to get a movement going," says Chantel Waske, receptionist and consultant at People's Choice. She says the marijuana dispensary on W. Liberty wants customers to "get out of their houses and call their representatives."

In January, People's Choice was handing out a call script downloaded from milegalize.com. The key line: "I was hoping that Congress(men/woman) would make a statement in support of the Rohrabacher Amendment, which protects the states' right to medical marijuana."

Dana Rohrabacher, a California conservative, is often described as "Putin's favorite congressman"—but he's also an ardent champion of legalizing marijuana. In January, when attorney general Jeff Sessions repealed a policy that let U.S. attorneys ignore state laws that conflict with the federal prohibition, Rohrabacher accused him of delivering "an extravagant holiday gift to the drug cartels."

Rohrabacher's amendment was temporarily extended three times last year; as the Observer went to press, advocates were pushing to have it be renewed once again. Will anything change if it doesn't? "It's definitely on our minds," says People's Choice manager Mike Olszewski. "We'll just have to wait." But at least for now, customers can still select a plant from their modest greenhouse, or enter the inner sanctum for advice from a "budtender."

Police commission coming: In November, a \$200,000 outside study recommended that the city expand civilian oversight of the Ann Arbor Police Department, and mayor Christopher Taylor says "I've not heard anybody suggest that it shouldn't happen." But though Taylor expects there will be "some kind of police

commission," there's plenty of disagreement about what powers it should have.

The review was prompted in part by the 2014 shooting of a knife-wielding woman by an AAPD officer. The city's Human Rights Commission wants a commission empowered to independently review such encounters, and to hear citizen complaints about police conduct. "I would like to have them be able to investigate," says longtime HRC chair Leslie Stambaugh. And, she says, "We'd like to be involved in policy."

Police chief Jim Baird notes that a civilian group already oversees the police department: city council. But he recognizes "an appetite for some form of citizen involvement. I'm not against it. The more citizens can see behind the curtain and see how we do our job, the more impressed they will be."

Taylor echoes that. "I envision a commission that plays a meaningful role in understanding what the police department does and communicating that to residents," he says. At the same time, "certainly part of a commission's job [is] to serve as a voice for people who are skeptical of law enforcement and to communicate that to the police department."

But Taylor doesn't think the commission "should have an adjudicative role in individual complaints." While it should review how the department handles complaints, he says, he wouldn't want it launching its own investigations:

"If the commission becomes unhappy with the judgments made by police administration," he says, "they have to communicate that to the city administrator, mayor, council, and the public."

As for giving the commission a role in policy, he says "it's perfectly proper for them to inquire about policy and learn about policy and push and prod—but not

set [it]." He'd also expect members to make a "commitment to learn about the exigencies of law enforcement. I would expect them to have periodic ride-alongs" with officers.

"It will all ultimately be determined by council," Taylor adds. "Council will put an ordinance into effect that describes the commission. That ordinance is going to come to us in draft from staff" after consulting with the police and the city attorney's office." He anticipates that may happen as early as this spring.

Deer recovery room: When Taryn Gal said she'd help out with the city's deer sterilization effort, she had no idea she'd be sitting in the middle of the woods under a blanket with a wild animal in minus 8-degree weather. "I was pretty clueless about different roles for volunteers," she says. "Last year I was the only volunteer who wasn't an experienced hunter or vet," and so couldn't

shoot the deer with tranquilizers or perform the ovariotomies. She also thought she'd have trouble lifting the deer into and out of the pickup truck used to haul them to a temporary operating room at Huron Hills Golf Course. That left just one volunteer task: sitting outdoors with the deer while they woke from anesthesia. She held the animals' heads up and out so they could breathe properly, then waited to make sure they could move on their own again.

As a mother of two grade-schoolers and managing director of the Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health, Gal has little room in her schedule for daytime volunteering. "The eleven p.m.–four a.m. shift was perfect, when the kids were in bed, for me to go out and do this."

One night, Gal says, two young deer approached their mother

when she woke, and the three walked off together in the moonlight. "It was so good that we had sterilized her and put her back out in the woods with her babies instead of just shooting her," says Gal.

Runaway carts: Scattered at apartment complexes and bus stops, or orphaned in rivers, ditches and other outlying areas, or in use by the homeless as mobile storage vessels, abandoned shopping carts are time-consuming and expensive to retrieve and repair. A Kroger employee at Traver Village shopping center cites students ferrying groceries to their apartments as the main reason carts "wander" off the parking lot.

Carts at the Traver Village store carry notices that their wheels will lock if they're removed from the center's parking lot. Rachel Hurst, Kroger consumer affairs manager, emails that the system was installed about ten years ago. "The cost for a cart is around \$200 for a new cart," she writes. "We had to hire a company to help us retrieve the carts and were paying about a \$1000 a week to have it done."

Yet when trying out the system in December, we found a cart moved easily across the street. An employee blamed lot repairs last summer. Asked about the evident security breach, Hurst responds, "We are aware of the system failing and have reached out to get this fixed as soon as possible."

Meanwhile, stray carts abound near apartments and bus stops around the Maple Rd. Kroger. Might other local Krogers also be in line for self-locking carts? Hurst replies that Kroger continues to work with a company to retrieve wayward carts there: so far, it costs less to do that than install (and maintain) a lot-wide security system. ■



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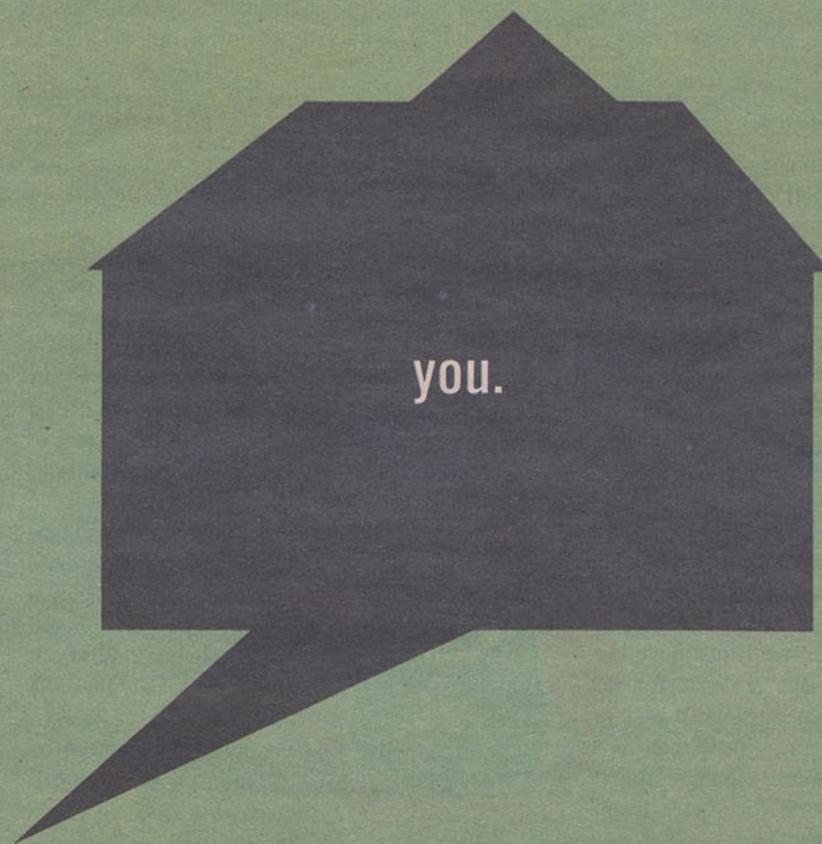
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InsideAnnArbor

Ready for Takeoff?

Once again, the future of the Ann Arbor Municipal Airport is up in the air.

There have been repeated attempts to extend the airport's runway over the last forty years—and every time, city council has shot them down. The most recent dates to 2009, and the final environmental assessment went to the FAA and the Michigan DOT early last year. Airport users consider the changes a no-brainer—but neighbors are once again determined to stop them.

"Our existing runway is 3,500 feet," explains airport manager Matt Kulhanek. The plan now being considered would add 950 feet to the west while removing 150 feet from the east, "so we would net an 800-foot increase."

He says MDOT recommends the 4,300-foot length, and says that currently, "the tower can't see aircraft waiting at the east end to take off because buildings are in the way. The FAA has designated this as a hot spot. I wouldn't say it's dangerous, but it requires an extra level of caution." The shift would also facilitate a long-range plan to expand State Rd. into a divided boulevard.

Former airport advisory committee chair David Canter, director of the U-M's North Campus Research Complex and a licensed pilot, says among airports in its class, Ann Arbor has the shortest runway in the state. "For some of the larger aircraft that use the airport under certain conditions, the runway is not long enough for them to leave fully fueled or fully passengered," he says. "And the extra runway would make it a little safer for everyone."

"You can never have too much runway," quips current airport advisory committee chair Peter Greenfield, a retired Delta pilot and a part-time instructor at the airport. "But you can have too little!"

Canter says the extension wouldn't change the type of planes using the airport, and Kulhanek says it wouldn't increase the number of operations. "It's not 'if you build it, they will come,'" Kulhanek says. "What changes traffic is how the economy is going and how aviation fuel prices are, with or without the [runway] extension."

The estimated cost is about \$3 million, none of it from the city. "The FAA and the state would pay for it," Kulhanek says. "Our local share is about 5 percent, about \$150,000, and that'll come out of the airports' trust fund. The tax on your Delta ticket goes into a pot of money at the FAA, and they dole out the money—



The FAA and Michigan DOT are reviewing a plan to extend the airport's runway. Neighbors once again are gearing up to fight it.

and not just to bigger airports but to smaller airports."

For Canter, it's straightforward. "What we're proposing is that the airport should be able to improve itself and solve small problems within its own perimeter under established rules used nationwide."

However, he allows, "there are neighbors who will experience some small changes."

Kathe Wunderlich and Andy McGill, who live just west of the airport in Pittsfield Township's Stonebridge development, believe the changes aren't good or small. "The prop planes are really loud," says Wunderlich. "But when the jet planes come in, they're really, really loud." Despite the airport's assurances, she and McGill believe more and bigger planes will use the airport if the runway is extended. And moving it west, they add, will bring it closer to Stonebridge and the Canada geese in its ponds.

"The thing we're most concerned about is the accidents that could result," McGill says. "Last January, for example, a jet landing at the airport in Howell went 1,800 feet beyond the end of the runway and across the road into a clump of trees. If that had happened here, he would have gone into the row of houses along Lohr Rd. You'd have had a real catastrophe!"

Kulhanek says only five birds have been struck by planes during his decade on the job. "With three, there was no effect and the [pilots] kept going. Two made precautionary landings, and again there was no damage." As for noise, he says that studies show that even with the extension, "all the areas over [the FAA limit of] 65 db are on our property."

Mayor Christopher Taylor says he doesn't have "an established position. This is an issue that concerns residents

and elected officials in Pittsfield Township, and I suspect they would be unhappy if the airport runway were expanded."

They certainly would. "We will exhaust all means necessary to oppose this runway expansion," vows Pittsfield supervisor Mandy Grewal. "If the city decides to move forward, we'll likely have to engage legal counsel."

It may not come to that. Unlike earlier efforts, the project has no obvious champion on city council—and at least one obvious opponent, Ward Four's Jack Eaton, who has constituents under the flight path. And city administrator Howard Lazarus remains unpersuaded.

"The real question to ask is whether or not having that airport provides any benefit to the city and the region," Lazarus says. "My mind is still open on that question."

Coopetition, Continued

Washtenaw County's rival healthcare systems are still competing—but they're also cooperating.

In September, St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor broke ground on an expanded cancer center in Ypsilanti. In November, Michigan Medicine opened a new outpatient center in Scio Township, less than a mile from St. Joe's year-old multispecialty clinic. The university also recently acquired a Muskegon practice whose physicians work at a hospital owned by St. Joe's parent company.

But the two systems aren't just competitors. In some respects, they're partners. Last spring, they announced that the U-M would acquire 49 percent of St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea Hospital (SJMC). Intended in part to relieve crowding at U-M and tap unused capacity in Chelsea, the joint venture builds upon decades of U-M physicians teaching and caring for

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ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Career and Technical Education (CTE)

The Ann Arbor Public Schools offers a variety of career and technical programs available to all students at the middle and high school levels. The program areas include the following:

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- Engineering
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- Health Science
- Marketing Sales & Services and Entrepreneurship

CTE programs deliver instruction that provide CTE students with strong experience in and understanding of all aspects of the program.

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Leadership opportunities are available for CTE students through professional student organizations that offer regional, state and national conferences and competitions. These organizations include Business Professionals of America (BPA), DECA and SkillsUSA.

To learn more about the CTE opportunities Ann Arbor offers contact the CTE Office at 734-994-2077 or visit the AAPS website: www.a2schools.org/Page/4119

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Round 2 – 2/20/18 - 3/23/18 (Grades Young 5s, K-10*)

*Grade 11 students may apply to Huron for the IB Programme

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Inside Ann Arbor

patients there. It will bring still more U-M physicians and services to the St. Joe's campus.

It's called "coopetition." "We are not seeking to be a monopoly, and this will not do that, but we need to cooperate where we can to provide better care to the community," says Michigan Medicine president David Spahlinger.

"Academic and tertiary hospitals around the country are all looking at ways to connect with community-based hospitals," says Marianne Udow-Phillips, executive director of U-M's Center for Healthcare Research & Transformation. That's because in today's healthcare environment, a big patient base is everything. It gives health care systems more bargaining power with insurers and drug companies, creates economies of scale for expensive items such as MRI scanners, and leaves each system stronger in the event of sudden policy or reimbursement changes.

The issue of access also drove the joint venture in Chelsea, according to Rob Casalou, who heads the five-hospital Saint Joseph Mercy Health System and five more hospitals in Muskegon-based Mercy Health. The university's beds are often 90 percent full—it's considered best to max out at 80 percent, to

allow for surges in demand—while SJMC had beds sitting empty. That jeopardized referrals for the university while leaving Chelsea's resources underutilized.

"The university could have gone out and spent tens of millions of dollars to build new capacity," says St. Joe's Rob Casalou. "Or we could utilize the excess capacity at Chelsea. Everybody wins."

Spahlinger says not every MM patient needs the extremely high-level care it offers in Ann Arbor, and it has backlog of patients who need some surgeries. With the agreement, SJMC will add more operating rooms; MM patients willing to go there might get seen sooner.

The two hospital systems have steadily expanded their cooperation in recent years. After the St. Joe's system beat out U-M to purchase Chelsea Community Hospital in 2007, the university continued to provide inpatient and family medicine services there. MM physicians now staff SJMC's pediatric surgery, pediatric cardiology, oncology, urogynecology, neurosurgery, and trauma services. And in 2012, the U and St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor worked together to develop the jointly owned and managed Acute Care for Elders unit there.

The two systems, Udow-Phillips says, have "a lot of experience of figuring out who is better suited to do what kinds of patients ... They've been really working on these partnerships for a while, which



J. ADRIAN WYLIE

U-M opened its newest outpatient center just down the road from a St. Joe's clinic. In Chelsea, meanwhile, the rivals will jointly own a hospital.

I think does strengthen the two of them together for the longer haul."

Owning a hospital together, Casalou adds, "couldn't have been the first thing we did. But it was really now the nice,

natural progression of our relationship with them." Down the road, he says, "We are looking at the same kind of question in other parts of the state where we have a common presence, where there's excess demand and lack of access."

But the first priority, Casalou says, is to "get this one up and running. Let's make sure it goes exactly the way we want it to, and then let's go to the next discussion."

Tow Truck News

When the battery died in Susan Darrow's Camry, she called Brewer's Towing.

As usual, Brewer's came out to jump start the car, her friend Al Slore reports—but to her surprise, "they wouldn't take her AAA card." Slore, a former Observer writer, poked around and learned, he says, that "Brewer's, Sakstrup's, and Triangle all stopped their contracts" with the motor club.

"We have discontinued our contract with AAA as of December 15, 2017," confirms Lori Thomas, manager of Brewer's and Sakstrup's. Thomas, the daughter of Brewer's founder Dennis Brewer, says AAA is "making some changes" in the way it handles road service in the Ann Arbor area and wanted Brewer's to become a "preferred service provider." She says that would have required the company to strip its trucks of their own long-established brands (her father bought his first wrecker in 1964), painting them white, and re-branding them "AAA." It also would have meant working with

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Monday, February 12, 2018
5 p.m. OR 7 p.m.

La Piazza at Mediterraneo
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Thursday, February 15, 2018

5 p.m. OR 7 p.m.

Travis Pointe Country Club
2829 Travis Pointe Rd. • Ann Arbor, MI

Inside Ann Arbor



MARK BIALEK
Brewer's and Sakstrup's discontinued their contract with AAA in December. Manager Lori Thomas says the auto club wanted them to strip their trucks of their long-established brands—and drop seven other road service providers.

AAA clients exclusively. "We work with seven other motor clubs," says Thomas. "They asked us to discontinue working with all but them."

A call to the local AAA office to ask about the changes was referred to Michigan AAA public affairs director Susan Hiltz, and then to national AAA corporate public affairs VP Kevin Bakewell. Bakewell says that locally "one, and only one, contractor ... has not renewed their contract." He says their branding requirements haven't changed and they're not requiring contractors to become preferred service providers.

But as Slote heard, Triangle Towing also recently stopped contracting with AAA in Ann Arbor. General manager Bill Shaw says he's been asked not to say much about why, just that "the model for what AAA wanted to do in Ann Arbor was not a business model Triangle Towing was interested in pursuing." Triangle will still help its customers who have AAA road service, but they'll have to pay up front and ask AAA to reimburse them. (AAA did reimburse Darrow for Brewer's service call.)

Triangle has a second location in Whitmore Lake, and Shaw says they still have a contract with AAA for road service there and in nearby areas. He says AAA is not imposing the same requirements there—at least, "not yet."

Bakewell says that Big House Towing is now AAA's primary local contractor, with Packard Towing as backup. An online search for Big House Towing comes up empty: no ads, no website, and no Facebook page. Bakewell couldn't even provide a phone number, just an address: 3230 S. State.

That turns out to be the BP gas station near Briarwood. A big sign promotes Maize & Blue Auto Repair, but says nothing about towing. Asked if Big House Towing is based there, an employee responds, "No. They're in Ypsilanti, actually."

Little Free Pantry

A devastating loss inspired Paige Abdullah's DIY social service.

It's not unusual to see people begging along Washtenaw Ave. at the US-23 exit to Ypsilanti. Paige Abdullah and her brother, Dakota "Cody" Weems, often see the same people walking near the house on Yost Blvd. where Weems lives. They are one reason why Abdullah created a small cabinet that she stocks once or twice a week with nonperishable food and toiletries. She painted the initials QG on its back.

QG stands for Querten Gonzales, Abdullah and Weems's half-brother, whose death inspired her person-to-person charity. "I thought maybe I could help others, even though Querten couldn't be helped," Abdullah says sadly.

Gonzales was eighteen when he passed away on New Year's Day, 2017. He'd been to Dawn Farm to treat his heroin addiction but left. He was planning to return when a friend came into town. "I guess he met up with the kid who told him the stuff was 'bad'—I guess that's supposed to mean it was good," explains Abdullah, who believes the heroin was laced with fentanyl (see p. 31). "They all got sick and were throwing up, and Querten was left in the room alone, and they didn't check on him until the next day. They

Life in Ann Arbor

Tim Athan

When Robert feels wanderlust he buys more travel clothing from Bivouac.



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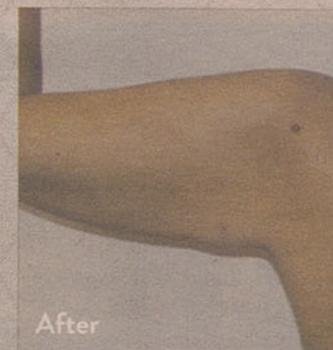
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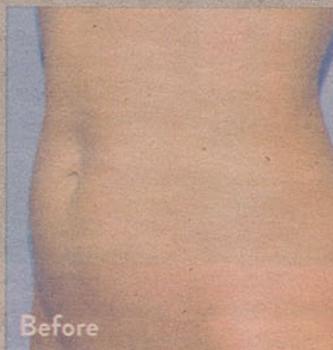


Before



After

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Before



After

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Before



After

Guillermo Blugerman, MD
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Inside Ann Arbor



Abdullah (right, with her mother Christina Saunders) started her "little free pantry" in memory of her half-brother Quenten Gonzales. Gonzales was just eighteen when he died of an overdose last January.

called an ambulance, but he was already dead.

"We found out through social media," she continues. "Some kid messaged Cody, 'I'm so sorry for your loss.' And we were like 'what are you talking about?' My mom received a text that said 'Quenten died' and nothing more."

His parents divorced when Quenten was young, and he took it hard. He dropped out of school when he was fourteen, began doing drugs, and living on the street. He was frequently arrested and spent time in juvenile detention for misdemeanors. He was supposed to be staying with his dad but didn't. Because of his substance abuse and anger issues—he had punched a wall out in his mother's apartment—he couldn't live with her.

After he passed away, Abdullah began to think about what she could do to honor his memory. She remembered how frequently he would call her or their mother, asking them to, "Please give me some food. I'm really hungry. I'm so hungry." My mom would take him something to eat, or I'd bring him some food wherever he was. And I started thinking about the people who don't have anyone" to do that for them.

Abdullah learned about little free pantries (some call them blessing boxes) on Pinterest. They operate along the same lines as little free libraries, but with donated food and toiletries instead of books. The first was reportedly launched in Fayetteville, Arkansas, in 2016, and it's estimated that there are now over 1,000 across the country. While not a replacement for food pantries, they're more accessible, anonymous, and open around the clock (Abdullah says that many visitors choose to come at night.)

Abdullah and Weems installed the pantry in July, stocking it with nonperishable food, toiletries, paper products, and pet food she'd stockpiled from freebies and buy-one-get-one-free deals at Kroger.

The items that disappear most quickly are deodorant, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products, and toothpaste—all things

rarely available at food pantries. Because Abdullah was able to draw on the cache she'd accumulated, she estimates that it costs her only a bit more than \$50 a month to keep it stocked. "Cody texts me when it's time to come refill it. He sees a lot of people walking by and taking things. Somebody told him they were really happy about it."

She'd like to increase the size of the pantry and promote others on properties near vulnerable populations. She also welcomes people adding to her pantry, but is hesitant to do anything that puts the focus on her.

"I want the pantry to be more of a tribute to my brother than recognition of my efforts," she says emphatically. "He had his problems with drugs, but he was a good kid."

question corner

Q. I'm sixty-three, and I've grown up with water towers. Are they really still necessary? I can't see how water towers would help us for long if we had a big water issue.

A. The city's two water towers are a simple and effective component of its drinking water system. Water is pumped up into them then dispensed using gravity. If they didn't exist, water mains would have to be pressurized using pumps powerful enough to handle peak demand. That's inefficient, because demand varies greatly throughout the day. Filled gradually using smaller pumps, the towers provide a buffer capable of supplying a city's worth of morning showers, even during power failures.

Got a question? Email question@aaobserver.com.

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Inside Ann Arbor

calls & letters

The Battle of Geddes Ridge

To the Observer:

A sidebar to your article about doctors Brad Foerster and Myria Petrou ("The Battle of Geddes Ridge," January) repeats allegations made by Dr. Brad Foerster against my client, an eminent physician, Dr. Robert Welsh. Dr. Foerster has made these deeply professionally damaging claims against his former friend, Dr. Welsh, in multiple venues and forums, in addition to his law suits against dozens of others, from the City of Ann Arbor to his own mother in law. Because Dr. Foerster's position afforded him an air of respectability, the University of Michigan has taken his allegations seriously, and carried out repeated investigations of Dr. Welsh.

In each case, Dr. Welsh has cooperated and has been completely exonerated; I have provided your paper with evidence of the same. Dr. Welsh has behaved honorably and properly throughout his career, without exception.

Nevertheless, your story could be read to suggest that Dr. Welsh left Michigan under some cloud of unresolved sex harassment allegations. That notion is absolutely false. Dr. Welsh began discussions to move to the University of Utah prior to Dr. Foerster's complaint against Dr. Welsh, and the allegations were dismissed before Dr. Welsh finalized the negotiation and accepted the position and decided to move. There was no cloud. Rather, Dr. Welsh left for the University of Utah because of its opportunities for his career, indeed with a more favorable compensation package compared to the University of Michigan.

Dr. Welsh has no further comment on this sad tale since the repeated exonerations and the details you have reported speak for themselves.

Sincerely,
Sarah Prescott
Salvatore Prescott & Porter

Prescott provided documentation from the U-M general counsel's office confirming that it had investigated Foerster's charges and found them to be unsubstantiated.

Since the article was published, Foerster and Petrou have filed a new federal lawsuit against forty-seven individual and corporate defendants, including the Observer and writer Michael Betzold. We're charged with engaging in a criminal conspiracy under the federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations Act. The lawsuit seeks an injunction to prevent the couple's eviction from their trophy home this month—and more than \$100 million in damages.

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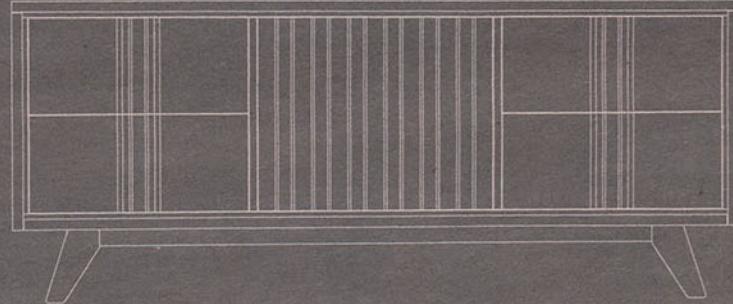
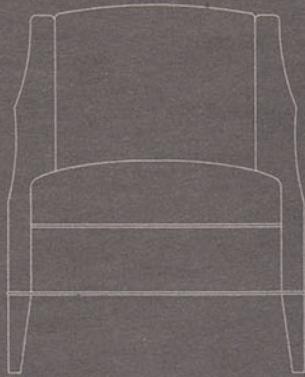
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Check out our activity guide (a2gov.org/parks) to see all of our offerings including cultural arts programs, golf, kayak and swim instruction, volunteer opportunities and much more. Registration for these great city programs can be done at a2gov.org/parksregister. You can find us online at twitter.com/a2parks, facebook.com/annarbor.parks or instagram.com/annarborparks



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734.794.6237

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• Advanced Classes: Feb. 9, March 9, April 12.
• Grown-up and Me Classes: Feb. 16, March 16, April 19.
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Outside

by Bob & Jorja Feldman



Meet Miehiera

Ann Arbor's arctic fox

Jorja stood on the sidewalk, checking out the weather advisory on her smartphone screen. There was a frostbite warning.

Nearby, an Arctic fox lounged in the snow, sweet as a sunbather soaking up rays on the beach. They were at a multi-building campus at the corner of Ann Arbor-Saline and Pleasant Lake roads. The campus, where Jorja works as the administrator, houses Animal Kingdom Veterinary Hospital, Creature Comforts Bed & Bath (a pet boarding and grooming facility), and the Creature Conservancy, a nonprofit devoted to animal conservation and education.

The fox, Miehiera, was donated to the conservancy. Her enclosure was shared until recently with Burton, a very old male who has since passed away.

Steve Marsh, the Creature Conservancy's head curator, explains that live animals help establish personal connections between visitors and the wild creatures for which the group advocates. Along with staff presentations about biology, ecological niches, and evolutionary history, such encounters can help people make more informed decisions as to how we coexist with the other residents of our planet.

Miehiera earns her keep as an education ambassador. But she is much more than just a pretty face. She displays many unusual adaptations that enable Arctic foxes to live in bitter cold polar bear country.

Miehiera earns her keep as an education ambassador. Marsh is bemused by her beautiful cat eyes: vertical pupil slits that look more feline than canine. But she is much more than just a pretty face. She displays many unusual adaptations that enable Arctic foxes to live in bitter cold polar bear country.

In the fall she puts on a lot of fat, which adds both an insulation layer and calories in the cold season. Her fur is a superb insulator, and unlike other canines' coats even protects the pads on the bottom of her feet.

Her stocky body, with short ears and legs, minimizes the danger of frostbite. And she can curl up in a tight ball for warmth, sweeping her bushy tail around her head like a scarf.

Like the northern landscape, Arctic foxes change color with the season: brown or gray in summer, and snow white in winter. This

time of year, Miehiera's coat is so white that it may take a moment to locate her in the snow. But her most interesting adaptation is invisible: Arctic foxes have circulatory systems that can isolate and maintain the temperature of the blood in their feet independently of their core blood temperature.

Some breeders offer Arctic foxes for sale, and the young kits are adorable. But Marsh does not believe they can be house-trained or tamed. He does not know of a single instance where one worked out as a pet once it started to mature. And that is a good educational lesson in and of itself.

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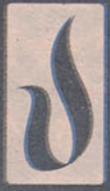
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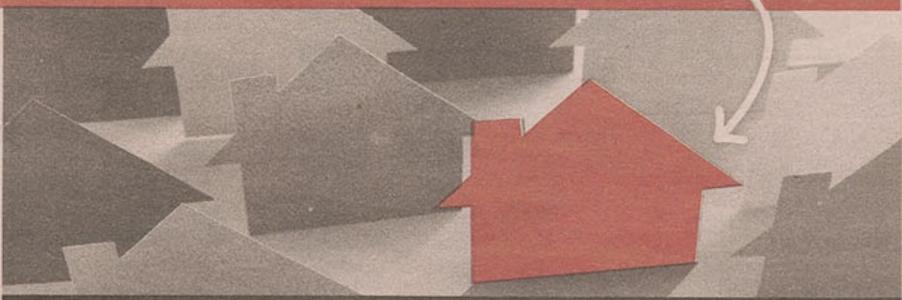


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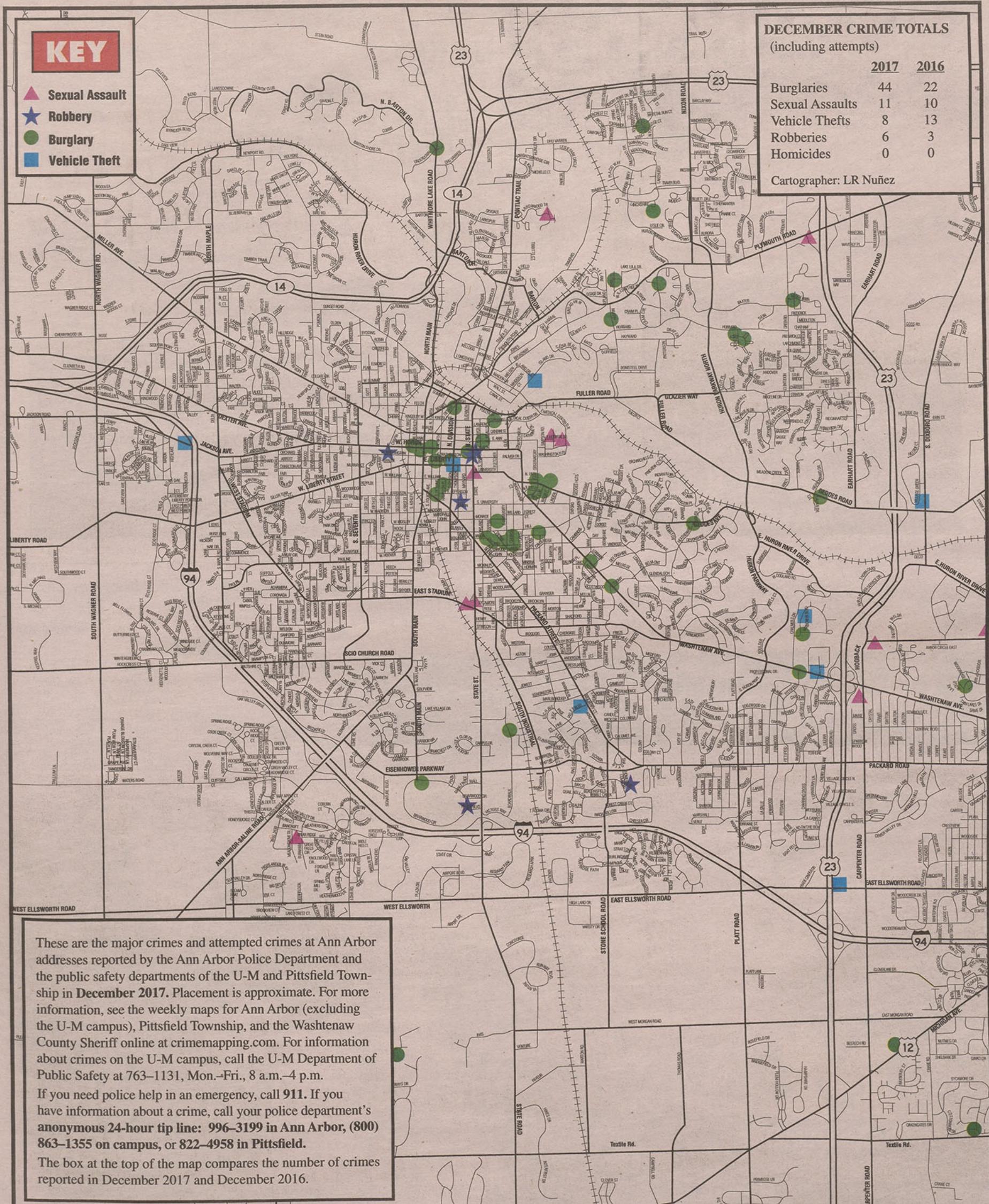


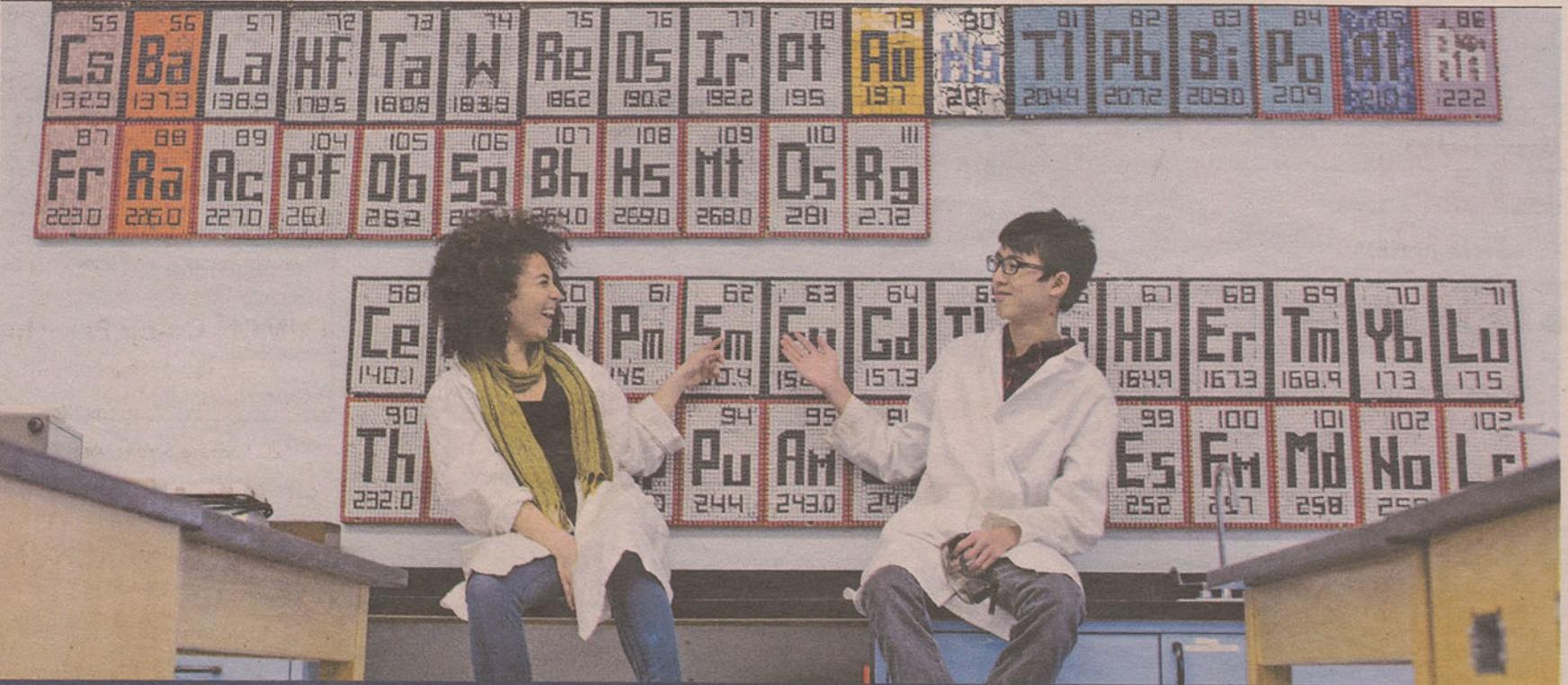
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Crime Map





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Ann Arborites

Book Love

Megan and Peter Blackshear

We spent time bouncing the idea for a while that maybe we should start a business—and jokingly threw ‘bookstore’ into the mix,” Peter Blackshear recalls. His wife, Megan, adds, “I don’t know at what point it went from joke to obvious.”

On a bitter cold afternoon in January, snow flurries swirl outside the windows of Bookbound, their bookstore in the Courtyard Shops on Plymouth Rd. Inside it’s cozy, as the Blackshears sip coffee while music plays softly on the overhead speakers. Their eleven-year-old yellow lab, Chester, naps behind the counter.

In August, Megan, forty-three, and Peter, forty-nine, celebrated Bookbound’s fourth anniversary. They spend so much time here that the store “almost feels like an extension of our house,” Peter says. “It’s like I’m hanging out at home, but anyone might drop by at any time.”

Sure enough, John McLaughlin Williams and his middle-schooler daughter, Chase, duck into the store from the cold. They live in the neighborhood, and John says they’d rather shop here than at “the big chain store,” meaning Barnes & Noble on Washtenaw. He appreciates “the homey atmosphere”—Bookbound, he says, reminds him of the “mom-and-pop shops” of his youth. Chase, grinning through her braces, buys a guide to the zombie apocalypse, which she plans to read during the final days of her school break.

The serene atmosphere belies the nail-biting that went into their decision to open a bookstore at a moment when conventional wisdom held that print would soon be extinct. They took the plunge during what Peter calls a “transitional period” in their own lives. They’d been married just two years, and Peter was out of work after Borders closed. He’d been there almost twenty years, working his way up from Christmas help to buyer in the discounted books section. Megan had quit her job in development at Food Gatherers to focus on freelance writing for websites, only to realize it was not for her.

That’s when they started talking about opening their own business—and went with the “obvious” choice. They couldn’t afford downtown rents, and besides, Hilary and Mike Gustafson had just announced plans for Literati. So “we trolled every strip mall on the outskirts of town,” Megan says. “We’d sit and watch the traffic.” They settled on the Courtyard Shops but worried that their interior space might be too hard to find.

“We knew we had one shot at this crossroads [in their lives], and we were privileged enough to take this chance,” Megan says. And luck was on their side:



They married in 2011 in a non-denominational service officiated by one of Peter’s sisters, an Episcopal priest. The ceremony was at the same New Hampshire church where Peter was baptized.

Cardamom had recently opened right across from them, and the Indian restaurant was drawing huge crowds.

“Before Cardamom expanded, they [customers] had nowhere to wait and so basically we became their waiting room,” Megan says. “The first year or two the vast majority of sales happened around mealtime.”

At first, 80 percent of their stock was bargain books—Peter’s old contacts from Borders gave them some great deals. They’ve gradually shifted the mix to 80 percent new books. “It was a slow build” by design, says Megan. Their 15,000 titles include many science, art, music, and architecture and design books, reflecting their North Campus location. Other big sellers are “serious literary fiction,” children’s books (school-age kids “rush in to the back” reading corner, Peter says), history, social science, and sci-fi/fantasy. “We dig deep,” Peter says, to find the books that their customers want.

“We’ve developed real relationships with people who shop here,” Megan says. “We know them as human beings, not just as shoppers”—like the regular who generally buys books on the social sciences and politics, then special-ordered a book on relationships.

“Honestly, the books people request catch me off guard four years in!” Peter says. Megan recalls a woman who was reading books about medieval history one week and infectious diseases the next. “Everyone in this town is a polymath,” she says.

The couple met through online dating site OkCupid; the initial questionnaire gave them a compatibility rating of 97 percent. “Our running joke the first couple of dates was trying to offend one another,” Megan says. Their life priorities—they don’t put a high value on material possessions, their political out-

looks are similar, and neither wants children—were in sync. And, she adds, “we have the same twisted sense of humor.” Each had been in long-term relationships, so “we took our time, knowing this would be for the long haul.”

They married in 2011 in a non-denominational service officiated by one of Peter’s sisters, an Episcopal priest. The ceremony was at the same New Hampshire church where Peter was baptized, near an idyllic lake property that’s been in

Peter’s family since the 1930s. Most summers the couple vacations for a week there with extended family—he’s one of six kids in a family that moved from upstate New York to Michigan when he was ten.

Megan grew up in Plymouth, with her parents and one older sister. A self-described introvert, she says she can get “overwhelmed” by what Peter calls his “noisy and large” family but still enjoys her time in New Hampshire. They visit her parents, now retired to Florida, for a week each winter.

A division of labor helps them get along: Megan handles most of the accounting and marketing, while Peter oversees most of the inventory and special orders. Two part-timers help out for about twelve hours a week.

They realize Amazon and its emerging brick-and-mortar storefronts will always take a big slice of the book market, “but it’s still Amazon, and it’s not local,” Megan says. “We can’t match Amazon’s prices, but we provide a different service”—for instance, by suggesting a day-brightener when needed.

“It’s winter. Things are crazy in the world,” Megan says. “People want a book with a happy ending!” One she often recommends is *A Gentleman in Moscow*, a book she says indie stores have helped make a bestseller. Peter says his personal favorites are pop science and his rediscovered love, sci-fi, which he read as a teen. Megan, who is active in social justice causes, enjoys choosing books on those topics for the store.

They knew there was a risk to opening a business together—especially early in their marriage. “We thought, ‘What if the bookstore fails and the marriage goes south because of it?’ But we still like each other!” Megan says, grinning, as Peter reaches over to squeeze her knee.

—Shelley Daily

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Triangle Cooperative Preschool

Sat., Feb 3, 10am-12pm

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221-0905 www.trianglecoop.org

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Life Cycles

Change and continuity in the student co-ops

I was a U-M student in the late 1960s, when the military draft loomed, women joining the workplace discovered glass ceilings, and the civil rights struggle was in full gear. We marched and sat-in, somehow also managing to study as we worked together to create a better society.

I lived at Osterweil Co-op on East Jefferson, loving it, and not just because co-ops cost less than other campus housing. In our self-governing house, we engaged in a messy democratic process, sharing chores and decisions, making the house run while trying to change how the country ran. Sure, we alone didn't end the Vietnam War, but it sure felt like it.

Before my time, in 1956, the writer Marge Piercy lived in Osterweil. "We were two or three to a room, all women," she emails. "We had male boarders who ate with us. It was a close-knit house. A lot of folk singing and cheap food."

That's just the way I remember Osterweil, plus a lot of arguing about how the change we all wanted should be achieved. If passersby didn't hear raised voices through an open window, they might have heard us gathered around the piano, singing with determination that *We Shall Overcome*.

Not wanting to leave when my undergrad days were over, I picked up an MA before moving to New York with my husband, Greg. A former Osterweil boarder, he had to forgo graduate work in philosophy and enlist in the Teacher Corps to avoid being drafted.

We enjoyed New York until the late '70s, when our first son, Randy, was born and the urban strife got to us. I found myself recurrently singing "I wanna go back to Michigan, to dear Ann Arbor town..."

Greg quit his job, even though he had no employment prospects here. I told my editors at city magazines that I could no longer cover New York events. We packed



Writer Davi Napoleon with her husband Greg, son Brian, and members of Black Elk Co-op.

Brian says, "There are board game nights and puzzle nights."

"Everyone is a little weird," says Elk member Aliza Gersing, a philosophy major who appreciates the nonjudgmental environment. "For people who have been judged and had trouble finding their people, there's a sense of family."

Brian says he's shared the house with "people from Japan, China, India, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Austria, England, Russia. People have different cultures and different religions and different majors. They are gay and straight and gender-neutral, Caucasian and African American." It's like having all of Ann Arbor in one house, working and enjoying life together.

I recently stopped by Osterweil. It looks the way I remember it—an upright piano in the living room, posters on the walls, one long dining table for all—except the basement has been renovated beautifully and the members aren't obsessed with politics. House president Ellie Epskamp-Hunt says Osterweil has its own social events that create community. Yiwen Lin, who was cooking dinner for everyone, lived in an apartment last semester. "It was more isolated. I feel a sense of connection here," she says.

Over the years, I also have felt more connected to Ann Arbor—writing an occasional story for the Observer helps—but never so much as since November 2016. I haven't been going to D.C. to march as I once did. Now we march downtown, alongside other Ann Arborites. As we cry out together against varied injustices, I feel I'm back in Ann Arbor, my town.

—Davi Napoleon

Like many people with disabilities, Brian had difficulties integrating into the social life of Ann Arbor until he found an inclusive community. He says he's shared the house with "people from Japan, China, India, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Austria, England, Russia."

a U-Haul. We bought a house on South Forest. And here we were in a lovely town with a vibrant cultural life, with good schools and safe parks. Why didn't it feel like Ann Arbor?

No longer mobilized by an immediate threat, Ann Arborites seemed settled in the routines of everyday life—work, kids, recreation. We made friends, joined a babysitting co-op and a skills exchange group, but nothing fully satisfied my longing for connection. Was Ann Arbor in Michigan or did it exist in a time and not a place? Was Michigan a state of mind?

I began to feel I'd come home, however vicariously, when our second son, Brian, moved into a co-op. Brian was born with cerebral palsy, and after graduating from Pioneer High in 2000, he wanted to live independently but needed more sup-

port than most. Nonstudents can be voted into what is primarily student housing, and he moved into a co-op down the block from us on Forest. Since 2006, he has been living or boarding at Black Elk Co-op, a vegetarian house on Baldwin.

Elkers come and go, but since there's always carryover from previous years in the twenty-two-member house, there's some consistency. Some of the stickers inside the front door date to the George W. Bush era. One of my favorites: "A woman's place is in the House—and the Senate."

Like many people with disabilities, Brian had difficulties integrating into the social life of Ann Arbor until he found an inclusive community. He's taken trips to Boston, Austin, and the U.P. with housemates. "We've gone to movies and apple picking and laser tag and hot tub oasis,"

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THE EPIDEMIC

OPPIOIDS ARE KILLING ONE PERSON A WEEK IN WASHTENAW COUNTY.

BY JAMES LEONARD

Ashon Marr, an elfin woman with a slicked-back Mohawk, is a former opioid addict. "I was a normal and well-adjusted kid," she says. Born and raised in Ann Arbor, she went to Eberwhite, Slauson, and Pioneer. But "when I got to high school, I was really unsure of my place in the world," she explains. "Anxiety and insecurity lead to addiction, and, when substances were presented to me, that was the decision I made."

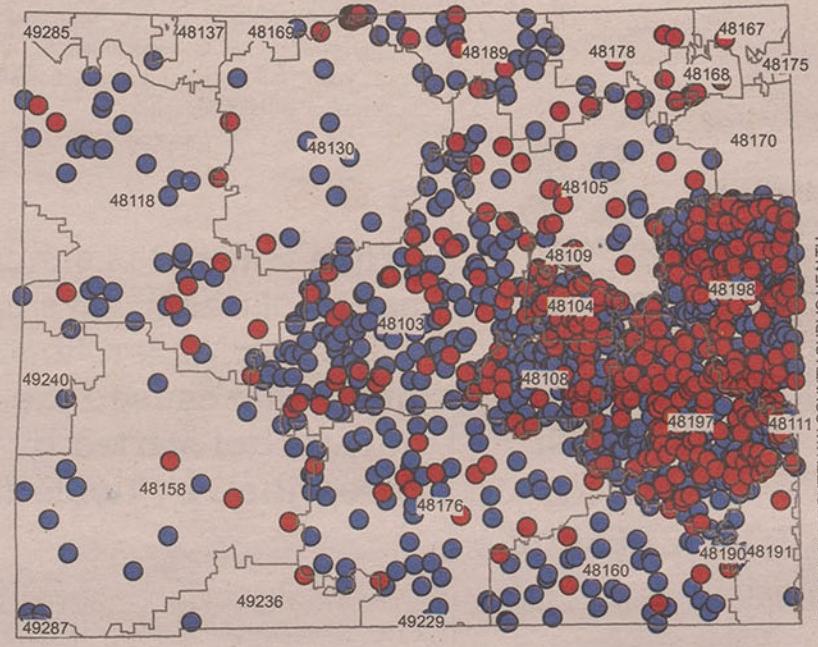
Those street drugs were bad enough. But opioids were worse, and she got them from doctors. "I had an emergency appendectomy in 2004, and, when I was exposed to opioid-based painkillers, I was off and running."

During the next nine years, she went from prescription opioids to heroin. "My life was lonely and painful and terrifying," she recalls. "I resigned myself to die."

Instead—"and I couldn't explain it even today"—she called for help. The Brighton Center for Recovery had a bed available, "but I was already experiencing withdrawal symptoms, and I didn't know how I was going to get to Brighton."

"So I called my dad," Marr says, brushing aside a tear. "The shame was tremendous, so I couldn't even get the words out to tell him where we were going. I just asked him for a ride ..."

"I was in a bad way. I weighed thirty pounds less than I do now. But food didn't



One Dot = One ED Admission One Dot = One Death

Opioid overdoses have killed 276 county residents since 2011. More than 1,000 more required treatment in hospital emergency departments.

matter. Nothing mattered if it came between me and my substance. I'm surprised it didn't kill me."

Today, Marr works at Home of New Vision, doing advocacy for substance use disorders and prevention education.

She knows how lucky she is: she lost her first friend to drug addiction at age sixteen. "It breaks my heart to admit this," she says, "but there have been so many

lost throughout my lifetime that I probably couldn't guess as to a total number of people I've known who lost their battle with this devastating disease." One friend, Brittney Krogh, was twenty-two and "seven months pregnant when she relapsed. She and the baby both died. She was a good person, very smart and very kind, and her boyfriend is still in jail on related charges."

Krogh was one of forty-nine county residents killed by opioids—both legal and illegal—in 2015. Fifty-nine died in 2016, and sixty-five through last October.

"We now have a Washtenaw County resident overdose every day, and an overdose death every week," says county epidemiologist Adreanne Waller. She tracks the cumulative toll on a map that shows overdoses and deaths since 2011 (at left). More than 1,000 blue dots mark overdoses that were not fatal but required treatment in a hospital emergency department. Another 276 red dots mark the place where someone died. Krogh's is across from Home Depot on Green Meadows Dr.

Krogh was tragically typical of the casualties of the opioid epidemic. Waller says that in Ann Arbor in 2016, 52 percent were under thirty, and 20 percent were female. And "fentanyl is involved in almost all of the deaths as an immediate cause of death."

Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid used to spike black-market heroin. But while it's the proximate cause of death, she adds, "that should not distract us from what caused the initial misuse." Many opioid addicts got started the way Marr did, by taking legal painkillers prescribed by doctors.

"These are medicines that were previously only available if you were inpatient at a hospital, and you weren't discharged until you didn't need narcotics anymore," Waller says. "Now we do many of our surgeries outpatient, and we now have very, very powerful drugs out in the community."

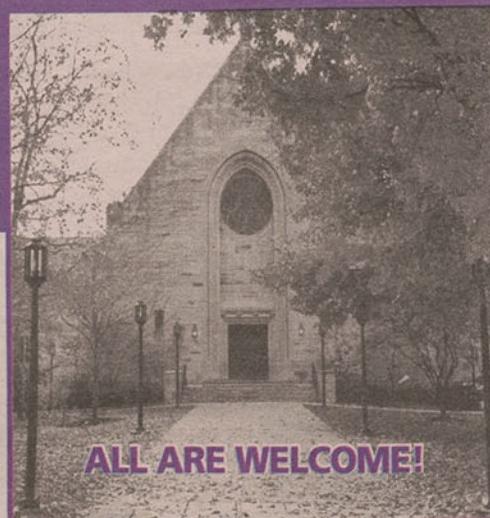


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THE EPIDEMIC

Sheriff's commander Marlene Radzik saw the results firsthand. Twenty years ago, she was an undercover narcotics detective buying drugs on the street. "It was crack cocaine mostly, marijuana, and powdered cocaine. Heroin was rare," and there were only a few overdose deaths a year, typically older men.

But "around 2010 I started seeing a lot of overdose deaths, and they were twenty years old, sixteen years old." When deputies investigated, Radzik says, "pretty much every story was the same. It was a football injury, a car accident, some kind of medical procedure where they were given Vicodin or OxyContin or Percocet. Two weeks' worth of that, and you can become addicted—and when you're not getting any more, then you start buying pills off the street."

credit and intimidate OxyContin's critics. It was not until 2007, a dozen years after it was introduced, that Purdue's parent company admitted to deceptive marketing and paid a \$600 million fine.

When newly addicted patients used up their legitimate prescriptions, they could turn to "pill mills," ask-few-questions clinics that tapped into the new abundance of legal narcotics. Last year, two doctors were convicted, and a third pleaded guilty, to charges related to the Megnot Comprehensive Center for Hope. Located in a Tudor-style mansion on Golfside, the clinic, according to prosecutors, dispensed 1.5 million doses of oxycodone alone before it was raided in 2015.

As awareness of the crisis grew, the number of prescriptions written for narcotic painkillers peaked in 2012. Yet nationally as well as locally, the number of deaths has continued to rise: the CDC counted more than 42,000 in 2016. More



While fentanyl is almost always a proximate cause of death, says county epidemiologist Adreanne Waller, "that should not distract us from what caused the initial misuse." Many addicts got started by taking legal painkillers prescribed by doctors.



They were easy to get. According to the CDC, between 1999 and 2016, prescriptions for opioid painkillers quadrupled—and deaths from overdoses more than tripled.

Herb Malinoff, a physician who specializes in addiction treatment and pain management, blames "bad science, wishful thinking, and money ... There were a couple of people who proposed the theory that pain was being undertreated and it was safe to treat people with opioids, because they're very unlikely to produce addiction.

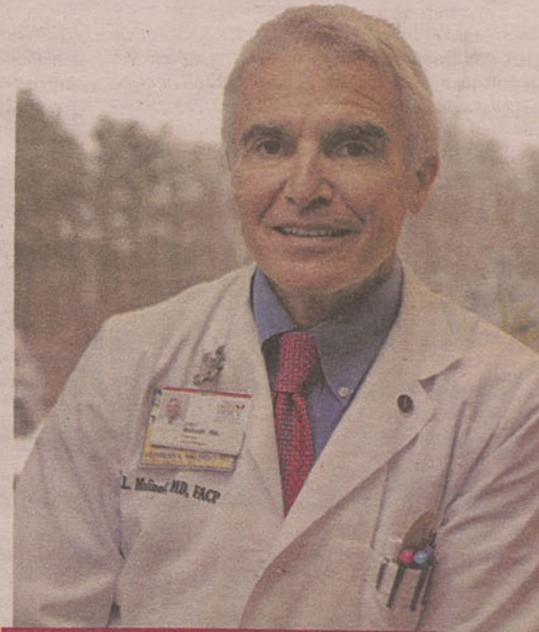
"The wishful thinking is when doctors think 'all I have to do is put people on high dosages of opioids, and they won't complain of pain' ... and physical dependency happens to everybody. If I put my grandmother on opioids and ramped her up, she would become dependent.

"The third factor is money." Purdue Pharma, "a sleepy little company in Connecticut, came up with OxyContin." It was just an extended-release version of oxycodone, a heroin relative long known to be addictive. But as the *New Yorker* explained in an October 2017 article, the company "funded research and paid doctors to make the case that concerns about opioid addiction were overblown and that OxyContin could safely treat an ever-wider range of maladies."

Even after accounts of abuse multiplied, Purdue tried to dis-

Americans were killed that year by opioids than by firearms (33,000) or motor vehicles (37,000).

Waller thinks the falling number of prescriptions may be offset by more rapid progression of addiction. "The window between the introduction of opiate use and severe addiction is shrinking," she says. And, paradoxically, "as you reduce the number of prescriptions available, when people are trying to access



Herb Malinoff uses medication to manage opioid addictions. He blames the epidemic on "bad science, wishful thinking, and money."

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When sheriff's commander Marlene Radzik needed someone to explain addiction to her deputies, she brought in recovered addict Ashton Marr.



If you read the newspapers, you might think that opioid dependence (and especially IV heroin addiction) is a death sentence—or at least a condition with little chance of recovery.

Lots of people in our local recovering community read that kind of story and shake their heads. "Why don't they see us? We are in long-term recovery, and it seems like no one believes we exist!"

A group of them started *The Unicorn Project*—an outreach and a website, populated entirely by men and women with long-term recovery from opiate addiction.

Recovering men and women are *not* mythical creatures—these people are REAL.

We know that true long-term recovery exists. We have recovering addicts in this town with more than 40 years of lasting sobriety from opiate addiction—with successful lives that prove it. They work in our communities, the teach college, they sell houses for a living. They pay taxes and go to church and vote in elections. But they don't wear nametags. You don't know who they are.

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their opiates, they have to turn to street drugs ... Prescription drugs are very expensive on the street, and heroin—or what you think is heroin—is much cheaper and, frankly, easier to get."

Shockingly, the death toll could have been far higher. Since 2011, Huron Valley Ambulance crews have carried naloxone, an "opioid antagonist" that can quickly reverse the effects of an overdose. As of mid-December, they had administered more than 3,300 doses to more than 2,300 individuals. The sheriff, the AAPD, and other local police departments also carry it. So does the Delonis Center homeless shelter, where last year nine people staying at the warming center overdosed. The staff was able to save eight; despite their efforts, one died.

The sheriff's department started carrying it in 2014, and counts seventy-seven saves. In the past, "I had overdoses where the parents had to kick in the bathroom door because their son or daughter didn't respond when they knocked," Radzik recalls with a shudder, "and the twenty-year-old is laying there with a needle in his or her arm, and you do CPR, and they die. Now we have that extra tool to save lives." And when they do, a deputy and a social worker from the county's Community Mental Health follow up and try to get the person into a treatment program.

"Abstinence-based recovery is the treatment of choice," says Malinoff. "But there's also medically assisted treatment." His Ypsilanti clinic, Pain Recovery Solutions, prescribes buprenorphine for patients who have opioid addiction. "It immediately stops the craving of withdrawal."

One patient in his late thirties "was taking forty Vicodin a day," Malinoff says. "He was holding down three jobs, working sixty to eighty hours a week. His wife [and] four little kids are at home. Most of his money is going to pay for his Vicodin. He goes on buprenorphine. His' craving stops. He stops buying Vicodin ... It's not recovery, but he's not dying of an overdose either."

"Addiction is an illness," he says. "These people are not bad, dumb, stupid, and crazy. They're killing themselves unintentionally."

That was Ashton Marr four years ago. The Brighton Center for Recovery "was my first exposure to the recovery community. The staff showed me this world that I could become a part of. It's incredible on this side. I've had opportunities I never would have had otherwise."

Like working for the sheriff's department. Responding to a Facebook post about a meeting to enhance police and community trust, she emailed the department's director of community engagement, Derrick Jackson. "So what does a girl with the red Mohawk tell this guy? That I'm a person in recovery? I don't think the statute of limitations is up on some things I've done ... but I took the leap, and much to my surprise he offered me a job.

"Among other things, I helped with the naloxone training for deputies. It's important for them to see somebody in recovery, because they certainly see us at our worst, and it would be hard to always see that and maintain hope. And there is hope. As long as we're breathing, there's still hope."

After two years with the department, she went to Home of New Vision, first working in their recovery residences then heading their new Washtenaw Recovery Advocacy Project.

"We advocate for people with substance use disorders on local, state, and federal levels," Marr says. "We do a lot of community education at schools and events. My favorite is a softball game between people in recovery and deputies from the sheriff's office. It's a hoot!"

"I was very fortunate to find recovery, the help that I needed and still need," she continues. "I believe for me to maintain my own recovery, it's important to help others. I know what goes bump in the night, and I want to be part of the solution."

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by James Leonard

"It wasn't easy or pleasant," says Ward Two's Kirk Westphal on council's vote last summer to hire Recycle Ann Arbor to process, ship, and sell the city's recyclables. "It's rare [for council] to come to different conclusions from staff. But this recycling issue was one of them."

In July 2016, city administrator Howard Lazarus closed the city's Materials Recovery Facility on Ellsworth Rd. Citing safety problems, he also fired the private company that ran it. On an interim basis, staff brought in the national company Waste Management to bale recyclables and ship them to processing facilities elsewhere.

Instead of continuing that contract, council voted 10-1 to hire Recycle Ann Arbor to haul the material uncompressed. The nonprofit had vociferously criticized Waste Management's bale-and-ship approach for destroying potentially reusable material. Loose shipping would cost more but cause less damage.

Lazarus initially objected to hiring RAA because of their "lack of experience on contracts of this scale." Six months into the one-year contract, the most he'll say of their work is "Recycle Ann Arbor is meeting the requirements of its contract." But the nine council members who responded to the Observer's emailed questions all seemed satisfied with their decision. "They seem to be doing a fine job," says Ward Five's Chuck Warpehoski of Recycle Ann Arbor. Ward Four's Graydon Krapohl agrees but says it hasn't been easy. "The MRF is a challenge."

Everyone agrees that the MRF is a shadow of its old self. So is the city's recycling staff. Ten years ago the city employed four people in recycling, and five years ago it was making money on processing increasing amounts of recyclables from outside the city. But those employees left or retired, and the high volume overwhelmed the MRF and degraded its equipment. Now the city has one person handling recycling contracts, and recent reports say it could take up to \$2 million to restore the MRF to safe operation.

In hindsight, many councilmembers are unusually blunt in their criticisms of staff. "If we still had someone dedicated to overseeing the operations, a lot of turmoil could have been averted," says Westphal. Ward Five's Chip Smith, council's rep on the environmental commission, is blunter. "We lack anybody on staff who knows what they're talking about on this stuff!"

Lazarus says Smith's criticism is "overly harsh and in that sense not true." But he concedes that the city needs "to reintroduce expertise ... You'll see a rebuilding of the capability as well as good, strong contract management."

That's not all Lazarus has in mind for recycling. Instead of a city-owned MRF, the administrator is thinking about regional recycling. And he's working on a comprehensive waste management plan that could include a new curbside recycling contractor—a service for which the city currently pays Recycle Ann Arbor \$1.8 million a year.

RECYCLING AT THE CROSSROADS

The city may go regional—and may do it without Recycle Ann Arbor.



Brian Stewart runs the Materials Recovery Facility for Recycle Ann Arbor. A city review could recommend a new facility—and new contractors.

Like many on staff, Lazarus is at best uneasy about RAA's mixed role as a recycling advocate and a city contractor. "Recycle Ann Arbor will always be an important part of advocacy and education," Lazarus says. "But we need to make sure that when we look forward at contracting that we're getting best value for our residents."

RAA spokesperson Bryan Weinert acknowledges that "there's always been tension with our multiple roles, and with the MRF, our advocacy became a sore spot for the city. I can understand how that can ruffle feathers," particularly when it was criticizing a competitor's performance. There was also, he adds, "a perception that Recycle Ann Arbor was just advocacy and didn't have chops to operate the MRF."

No one questions RAA's chops at curbside collection: it's been doing it since 1977. The question is whether reorganizing services could save money. Staff is working on a request for proposals for a new "solid waste resources management plan" that includes recycling, composting, and trash disposal. "The opportunity we have over the coming year and a half is to get better value for the collection," Lazarus says, "perhaps by reducing the number of contractors."

RAA was founded by young environmentalists who simply hated the idea of

reusable material going to waste. But the city, which began supporting the group in 1982, has always calculated the financial implications as well.

In recent years, the math seemed to favor recycling. According to former MRF contractor ReCommunity, from 2011 to 2015 the city made almost \$3 million from sales of materials it sorted and sold there. It also saved the cost of landfilling tons of garbage.

But Lazarus—a civil engineer with a master's in environmental engineering and chemistry—doubts that recycling ever really made money. "When you factor in all the costs of a recycling program—true overhead cost, true depreciation costs, and long-term capital replacement—you never recover the full cost," he says.

And lately it's gotten harder. The price of recycled newspaper dropped from \$88 per ton in 2012 to \$62 in 2016. Glass fell from \$4 to \$1.50. When China stopped accepting two dozen types of "foreign waste" in January, it slashed demand for recycled plastics. That's led some cities to stop collecting glass and plastics.

Meanwhile, trash disposal is getting cheaper. When the city's contract came up for renewal recently, "we had programmed a 30 percent increase in landfilling costs," Lazarus says. But the final bids came in

36 percent lower, saving the city approximately \$775,000 a year.

All this factors into the question of what to do with the MRF. "Because of the change in commodity pricing, the change in packaging, and the need to constantly adapt equipment, the issue is whether the city is best positioned for the long term to operate a facility like that," Lazarus says. It might make more sense, he says, to use its site "to partner with someone else to provide a facility that is adaptable and meets our objectives."

Lazarus acknowledges that likely means regionalizing recycling. "We are working with the county."

Evan Pratt, the county's water resource commissioner and director of public works, says "it should be cheaper to do it regionally, but I've got to see an analysis. We're the biggest place in the state that doesn't have regional authority."

"The county's role would be primarily financial," Pratt continues. "We have a little money in hand because the county receives a cut of the gate" at the Arbor Hills landfill in Salem Township. He feels "an independent authority would be [the] best and fairest" way to structure regional recycling, but that will be up to the communities that want to take part. "My role would be to help get it off the ground, to find out how many communities are interested."

Lazarus stresses that whatever happens, the city won't abandon recycling. The goal, he says, is "to be more agile, to be able to adapt to changes in the market"—even if that means contracting with someone other than Recycle Ann Arbor.

RAA's Weinert emails that the group "has served as the area's resource and conscience in advocating for maximum recovery for 40 years, a role that we believe is understood and appreciated within the community." Since the group took over hauling and sales last year, he says, they've found better markets for the city's glass and mixed paper and reduced the amount of damaged material that has to be landfilled. He adds that RAA provides "union jobs with fair wages and benefits," and keeps profits "in the local community supporting local environmental endeavors."

Chip Smith acknowledges that getting value for money is important. But he also believes the city's staff wants to replace RAA "because of personalities and personal histories with some of the staff and some of the RAA personnel." Council overrode staff's objections to hire RAA last year, he says, because "staff did a terrible job of developing the [request for proposals] and bids and did not build trust or credibility with the Environmental Commission or Council."

This time, Lazarus says, the city and county have hired a consultant whose final report is due next month. That will launch a yearlong project to update the solid waste plan, including a new request for proposals from would-be contractors. At that point, city council will again have to determine the future of recycling—this time, for a much longer term.

THE NEW WORKOUTS

Steve Bemis, seventy, is a Webster Township farmer. "I live a physical life, and so I wanted to strengthen my core—safely—as I get older," he says. "I thought about a gym, but my wife convinced me to go to someone who knows the human body and gears a program to what I need."

His wife, Judy, has long been working with health coach Darlene Sosenko. Which is how Bemis found himself at the newly opened JOY: Freedom in Motion studio on Main St. in December. Pre-Midnight Madness crowds flocked to the open house at the former Espresso Royale, curious about the elegant wooden "Gyrotonic" equipment.

"This equipment works our bodies in spirals, circles, and spheres, offering a three-dimensional approach to exercise," owner Heather Glidden explains as Sosenko demonstrates.

"We recognize that you're only as young as your spine is mobile," Sosenko adds. "When we move in life, we just don't go forward and back. We twist, turn, bend, and flex. Gyrotonics mimics our motions in real life, strengthening our body and encouraging more flexibility."

JOY also offers Pilates and yoga sessions, nutritional programs, a vibrating Galileo exercise machine that looks like a fancy scale, an elegant massage room, and infrared sauna. No showers, however. "I'm a firm believer in essential oils and the fact that Americans wash too much, removing oils from their skin," Sosenko says.

Baby boomers started flocking to gyms in record numbers in the 1980s, working shoulder-to-shoulder on medieval-looking equipment with the traditional gym rats, weightlifters and athletes, hoping to lose pounds and stress. But times and workouts have changed dramatically. Fitness-minded people are now circumventing gyms and spending their time in, and money on, small and intimate boutique fitness programs.

"In the last five years, we've seen a significant change in the marketplace for fitness," says John Rotche, founder of Ann Arbor-based "meta-franchisor"

Boxing. Ballet. Hot yoga. What's driving the boutique fitness boom?

by Cynthia Furlong Reynolds

Franworth. "Interest has moved from big-box fitness centers with machines to boutique fitness centers with trainer-led programs for busy people who need to be in and out in an hour. Boutique fitness programs are more focused and supervised than gym workouts; they tend to be specialized."

Gyrokinesis. Pilates. Yoga in a multitude of forms. Boot camp. Spinning. Boxing. Jazzercise. Kickboxing. Rowing. Ballet barres. Boutique fitness is an umbrella term for a dizzying variety of user-specific programs held in small, intimate, often aesthetically pleasing surroundings.

"Gyms foster the mentality that fitness has to hurt. Everyone looks miserable as they try to disassociate from their bodies to endure their workouts," says Elaine Economou, who owns MOVE wellness centers on Jackson Rd. and S. State. Boutique fitness programs "involve smaller groups of people and a much stronger level of supervision. Nowadays more people understand the impact of fitness on their overall health. They're willing to pay for routines that positively impact their health."

And that can be costly. Monthly gym memberships can drop to \$10 a month after the holidays, while boutique programs start at \$18 per class and might rise to over \$100 for individual sessions with a personal trainer.

So, what do boutique fitness programs offer that gyms do not?

Brenda Steiner, owner of Unique Hair Studio, has spent 1,500 hours training to become a Pilates instructor at MOVE, across Jackson from her studio, after Pilates exercises healed her back, eliminating the need for surgery. "Pilates teaches techniques that help us maintain our physical abilities as we age," she says.

Banker Eunice Frey-Dobbs chooses "boot camp" workouts and Jazzercise. "I like exercising in a welcoming buddy system," she says. "There's something very satisfying about sweating when you're doing it with others who share your commitment to losing weight and staying trim."

"When I went to a gym, I got bored or distracted, and I wasn't always sure I was using the machines properly," says Christina Gaskins, a thirty-five-year-old

When John Rotche became president in 2012, Title Boxing had fourteen big-box facilities. Now it has 175 boutique clubs, with 225 more under development.

entrepreneur and mother of two. "I like the group atmosphere in a fitness program. We're not competing together; we offer each other moral support."

Boutique fitness also offers intangible benefits: "the sense of community you can't get in a gym," says Deb Gonzales. She drives from Saline three times a week for ninety minutes of Bikram yoga in 105 degrees at Pure Hot Yoga in Maple Village. "Most of us attend the same classes, so we get to know each other and care about each other. I moved here from Texas, looked for a Bikram class, and immediately found a circle of friends. We often go out for coffee after our sessions, or we'll meet for happy hour."

In addition to running Franworth, Rotche is CEO of the national Title Boxing Club and owns the local franchise on W. Stadium. He says Title was a pioneer in the boutique fitness field, having successfully made the transition from a low-cost boxing club in a large facility to a boutique whose product now is "experience first, exercise second."

When Rotche became president in 2012, Title was a low-cost and bare-bones gym experience. Noting that its clientele was 70 percent female, he convinced the founders to transform its facilities from big-box to boutique, making them more intimate, more upscale, and consequently, more pricey. The transformation worked; from fourteen when he started, the company now has 175 clubs around the world, with 225 more under development.

Alexandra Beattie, twenty-five, says she heads to the local club when her workdays end. "This is the greatest exercise," she says, wiping her forehead after warming up with weights. "Putting on boxing gloves and facing a bag isn't just physically rewarding, it's very empowering." In November, she ran in the New York marathon, and credits Title with helping her prepare.

Rotche will soon open another boutique fitness franchise, Cityrow, on E. Liberty near campus. Founder Helaine Knapp, a 2008 U-M grad, developed the concept while launching her career in Manhattan after a back injury limited her to low-impact exercises. "I was looking for a smarter and more effective way to work my body," Knapp says. "I fell in love with boutique fitness because I could work out in an intense hour that I could wedge between a crazy work schedule and happy hour with coworkers or clients. I couldn't find a low-impact workout with high-intensity sweat, so I started my own. I wanted to create something that would be fun, sexy, cool, and accessible." Cityrow combines workouts on its water-based rowing machines with either yoga or Pilates.

Elaine Economou's MOVE offers Gyrotonic equipment and Gyrokinesis. "Gyrokinesis is an exercise class that falls under the larger umbrella of Gyrotonic exercise," she explains. "It's derived



JOY's Heather Glidden and Darlene Sosenko



Adrienne Madias leads a Barre Code class.



Josiah Allen, Winnie Ip, and Marisa Demos at Title Boxing

from yoga, tai chi, dance, gymnastics, and swimming. It emphasizes increasing the mobility of the spine through continuous and fluid movements that help mobilize and create space in all the body's joints."

Economou says she strives to make her facilities "a place where people meet their fitness and wellness goals in a supportive, inspiring, and challenging environment." Client Shelly Kovacs says it "isn't just a workout, it's a program that attends to our mind/body/soul. Gyrotonics takes us out of our comfort zones while keeping us safe." Brenda Steiner isn't the only client who was so inspired by the program that they enrolled in Economou's Pilates instructor training program.

Ballet, too, can inspire an exercise regime. Adrienne Madias started what is now called Barre Code in 2014. At locations on Plymouth Rd. and E. Washington near campus, clients combine ballet positions and a barre with yoga, bucket boxes, and dance movements. "The barre helps increase breathing, flexibility, and strength," Madias explains. "We use lights, sounds, and music to help people zone in on the class and leave everything else outside."

"Keep burning" is the motto for Orangetheory Fitness, with locations on Plymouth and S. Main. It refers to the franchise's post-exercise oxygen consumption (EPOC) program. Class members are equipped with heart monitors whose results are posted on a screen. Workouts change weekly and are challenging—they're designed to burn between 500 and 1,000 calories an hour, stimulating metabolism and increasing energy. When the heart rate hits the monitor's "orange" range, she says, the body will continue burning calories for up to thirty-six hours. Plymouth Rd. manager Corrine Rotondo says her clients range in age from fourteen to seventy-five.

In January, Tina and Johnny Miller held an open house at their new TRU Fitness studio, on Metty Dr. off Jackson. "We're the only 'Balanced Athlete' facility in Michigan," Johnny Miller says. "Our program combines yoga and Pilates for carefully supervised core training that improves posture and balance while relieving the body's aches and pains."

Most clients range from thirty-five to seventy-five and work out barefoot. "We ease people into yoga," Johnny says, "incorporating wellness and traditional strength training, and we work out barefoot because shoes compensate for our feet and mask problems."

Former instructors at Bally Total Fitness, the Millers have no plans to franchise. "I never want this business to grow so large I don't know every client's name," Tina Miller says. "This is a very specialized, highly supervised program that aims to have our clients feel stronger and better every time they leave. Our goal is daily improvement, not the development of a six-pack or preparing to train for a marathon."

That fits with the more holistic approach adopted at many of the new gym alternatives. "There's something almost ceremonial about boutique fitness programs," Rotche says. "It's a great, and constructive, way to exercise in a nice environment with like-minded people." ■

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Restaurant Reviews

Everest Sherpa Restaurant

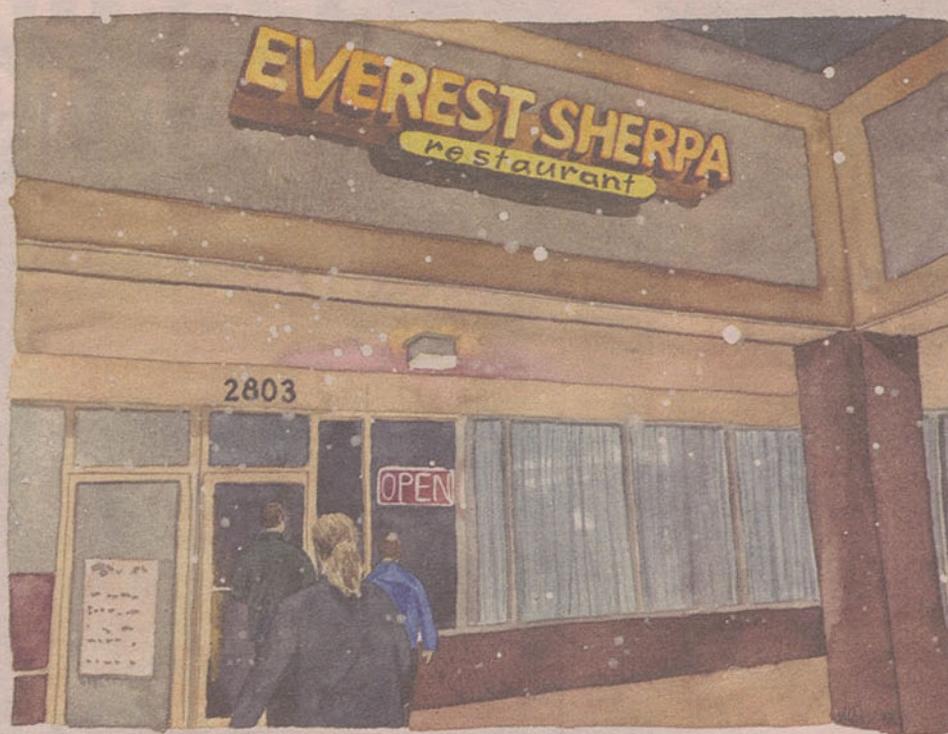
Himalayan excursion

Walking across the barren expanse of parking lot at the northern end of Oak Valley Centre into Everest Sherpa Restaurant feels a bit like trudging up a windswept hillside toward an alpine retreat; happily for you, its owners, smiling a warm welcome, usher you into rooms trimmed with bold colors and gilded art, the air made fragrant by elusive spices. With that bleak vision outside curtained off, a cup of sweet, milky chai warming your hands, and a background hum of Tibetan-style chanting soothing jangled nerves, you would swear you had been transported far, far away.

Expecting a modest storefront restaurant, my husband and I were delighted by how stylish and attractive Everest is. The space is discretely segmented with open dividers and half walls into brightly painted rooms, with Buddhist and Hindu art and arresting photos of the Himalayas on the walls. The Nepali owners, Pem Sherpa and his wife Moni Mulepati, who also own the Himalayan Bazaar on Main St., took the photos on their own treks up and down those mountains. Beginning as the Everest Momo food cart at Mark's Carts, the couple and their family are now tackling a new adventure: a full-fledged restaurant that's replaced Lotus Thai in the mall.

Everest Sherpa's menu reflects the shared elements of Nepali, Tibetan, Bhutanese, and Indian cuisines. Of course, momos, steamed (or optionally fried) dumplings, top the list of appetizers. Everest's are rather small and come filled with gingery ground chicken or mixed vegetables. They're served with Nepali achar, a dipping sauce of pureed sesame seeds and roasted tomatoes. We found the chicken version much more flavorful. Depending on what you order, however, an appetizer might not be necessary; entrées tend to be generous.

At lunch, for instance, my husband ordered the standing midday special, *dal bhat*, a traditional Nepali rice platter much like a south Indian *thali* meal. A mound of rice comes surrounded by small bowls of lentil soup, vegetable sides, a choice of vegetarian or meat curry, and dessert, along with delicious soft, blistered naan bread. Though he kept swearing he'd have



KATHERINE DOWDIE

Everest Sherpa's menu reflects the shared elements of Nepali, Tibetan, Bhutanese, and Indian cuisines. Of course, momo dumplings top the list of appetizers.

to take some home, my husband, amid groans of surrender, repeatedly returned to the bowls and the mound, finally leaving us only a triangle or two of naan to wrap up. We did take home half my Lhasa chow mein, a Tibetan-style stir-fry of wheat noodles coated with a light curry sauce and dotted with shredded vegetables and, optionally, substantial pieces of chicken. Rather bland at lunch, the leftovers developed greater flavor and zest when reheated the next day.

A Himalayan curry with shrimp and an Indian paneer tikka masala, both accompanied by cumin seed-scented rice, were our lunch

choices a few weeks later. With a simple base of tomato and onion, the curry sauce was less rich than the creamy, buttery tikka masala enveloping the cubes of yogurt cheese, but we had no complaints about either.

The lunch business we saw at Everest—one day a Sunday, another a Wednesday—was encouraging given the restaurant's rather forlorn location, but I was really surprised when I met four friends for dinner on a Tuesday night. The place was hopping—and remained so as our party of five closed it down. Ample free parking is always a draw, especially as downtown Ann Arbor becomes more congested, and with so many other positive attributes—good food, friendly service, pleasant ambience—the restaurant seems to have become a destination.

And that night, for four of us at the table, Everest was a destination; only one friend lives near that edge of town. Aiming to try the less common dishes, we ordered the lamb Sherpa Stew, a warming,

well-spiced, and well-stocked broth of toughish meat, potatoes, vegetables, and chewy, flat, triangular noodles or dumplings. Much less flavorful was the vegetable Base Camp Thukpa, a bland bowl of linguine-type noodles, assorted vegetables, and undistinguished broth. Chicken *butayko* was similar to an unremarkable Chinese stir-fry, heavy on peppers, onions, and tomatoes, with spices punting towards India. Shrimp *makhani*, the seafood perfectly poached in a creamy tomato sauce thickened with ground cashews, settled right in India. We also ordered onion naan and *aalu paratha* (potato-stuffed flatbread), both tasty but neither as compelling, to my mind, as the plain, butter-drizzled naan. The Tibetan bread, fried rather than gridled, was warm and puffy, the outside lightly crusty and sweet from sprinkled sugar. I could imagine how delicious it would be with honey and a cup of milky chai for breakfast.

Lulled by the food and the comfortable surroundings and engrossed in our conversation, my friends and I continued to nibble at the edges of our leftovers, getting up finally when Sherpa and Mulepati and their family sat down to eat their own late supper. Walking out the door to our cars, we were almost startled to realize how transported we'd been—surrounded, for a time, not by big boxes and suburban roads but by high peaks and Nepali homes.

—Lee Lawrence

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FEBRUARY EVENTS



Romeo & Juliet
by Gene Schiavone

8980: Book of Travelers

Gabriel Kahane, vocalist and composer
Directed by Daniel Fish
Set and video design by Jim Findlay
Friday, February 2 // 8 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

The morning after the 2016 presidential election, singer-songwriter Gabriel Kahane packed a suitcase and set out for a two-week train trip across the US with no phone or internet, embracing 8,980 miles of a reclusive Amtrak existence. The result is this hymn to the analog intimacy of American rail culture as an antidote to the fragmentation and efficiency of modern life.

Supporting Sponsors: Joel Howell and Linda Samuelson

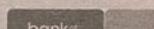
Estonian National Symphony Orchestra

Neeme Järvi, conductor
Garrick Ohlsson, piano
Saturday, February 3 // 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

PROGRAM

Eller Homeland Tune
Brahms Piano Concerto No. 1 in d minor, Op. 15
Tubin Symphony No. 5 in b minor

Former Detroit Symphony Orchestra music director Neeme Järvi returns to Southeast Michigan with the Estonian National Symphony Orchestra. Now 80, Järvi leads the ensemble in its UMS debut with a program steeped in the music of Estonian composers.

Supporting Sponsors:  Anne and Paul Glendon and Dody Viola

Media Partners: Ann Arbor's 107one, WGTE 91.3 FM, and WRCJ 90.9 FM

Schubert's Winterreise Ian Bostridge, tenor

Sunday, February 4 // 4 pm
Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

Bostridge's fascination with Schubert's *Winterreise* extends beyond the hundreds of performances he has given of the 24-song cycle; the former historian has also written a book, *Schubert's Winter Journey: Anatomy of an Obsession*. The book is an engrossing read, but the live performance of a winter journey across a landscape of lost love is not to be missed. "This was without doubt the most extraordinary, riveting, uncanny performance of Schubert's great song-cycle I have ever witnessed." (*The Telegraph*)

Presenting Sponsor: Maurice and Linda Binkow Vocal and Chamber Arts Endowment Fund

Romeo & Juliet American Ballet Theatre

Kevin McKenzie, artistic director
Choreography by Kenneth MacMillan
Music by Sergei Prokofiev
Thursday-Friday, February 8-9 // 7:30 pm
Saturday, February 10 // 2 pm & 7:30 pm
Sunday, February 11 // 2:30 pm
Detroit Opera House

Kenneth MacMillan's masterful interpretation of Shakespeare's enduring romantic tragedy has become one of ABT's signature productions. The story of Verona's tragic star-crossed lovers is woven throughout a dance tapestry rich in character nuance and sensuality, with Renaissance Italy providing a sumptuous and period-perfect background. Sergei Prokofiev's instantly recognizable music, performed live by the Michigan Opera Theatre Orchestra, underscores the lyric beauty and passion of this beloved ballet.

Luxury coach service is available from Ann Arbor for a nominal fee for the Thursday and Friday performances.

Co-presented by:  MICHIGAN OPERA THEATRE

Funded in part by: Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan

The Michigan Opera Theatre Dance Season is made possible by: Lear Corporation
Media Partners: Ann Arbor's 107one and Michigan Radio 91.7 FM

Joshua Bell, violin

Saturday, February 10 // 8 pm
Hill Auditorium

Joshua Bell enchants audiences with his breathtaking virtuosity and charismatic stage presence. His restless curiosity, passion, and multi-faceted musical interests have developed and deepened since he was first spotted plucking tunes with rubber bands stretched around the handles of his dresser drawers at age four. His concerts regularly draw rock-concert enthusiasm from audiences, despite — or perhaps because of — his down-to-earth personality. Recital will include works of Mozart, Schubert, and Richard Strauss, with additional works to be announced from the stage.

Presenting Sponsors: Drs. Max and Sheila Wicha and Karl V. Hauser and Ilene H. Forsyth Choral Union Endowment Fund, which partially supports an annual UMS Choral Union performance
Supporting Sponsors: The Medical Community Endowment Fund, James and Nancy Stanley, and The Zelenock Family



Media Partners: WDET 101.9 FM, WGTE 91.3 FM, and WRCJ 90.9 FM

National Theatre Live in HD Stephen Sondheim's *Follies*

Directed by Dominic Cooke
Sunday, February 11 // 7 pm
Michigan Theater

New York, 1971. There's a party on the stage of the Weismann Theatre. Tomorrow, the iconic building will be demolished. Thirty years after their final performance, the Follies girls gather to have a few drinks, sing a few songs, and lie about themselves. This dazzling production features a cast of 37 and an orchestra of 21, with Tracie Bennett, Janie Dee, and Imelda Stanton starring as the magnificent Follies.

Presented in partnership with the Michigan Theater.



George Gershwin, Dubose Heyward, and Ira Gershwin Boston by Vandamm Studio NY



Emmanuel Pahud
by Fabien Monthubert

Emmanuel Pahud, flute

Wednesday, February 14 // 7:30 pm
Rackham Auditorium

PROGRAM

Poulenc	Sonata for Flute and Piano
Schubert	Arpeggione Sonata in A minor, D. 821
Schumann	Fantasy Pieces, Op. 73
Mendelssohn	Violin Sonata in F Major (arr. Pahud)

A star flutist only comes around once or twice in a generation — and it's fair to say that this generation's strongest candidate is the Swiss-born Emmanuel Pahud. One of today's most adventurous musicians, Pahud joined the Berlin Philharmonic as principal flute under Claudio Abbado at age 22, a position he still holds today. For this UMS debut recital, he performs arrangements of sonatas written for other instruments, allowing audiences to experience the works in a completely different soundscape.

Presenting Sponsor: Ken Fischer Legacy Endowment Fund
Supporting Sponsors: Jerry and Gloria Abrams and Gil Omenn and Martha Darling
Media Partner: WGTE 91.3 FM

Opera in Concert

The Gershwins' *Porgy and Bess*

Written by George Gershwin, DuBose and Dorothy Heyward, and Ira Gershwin

University Symphony Orchestra

Kenneth Kiesler, conductor

U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance Chamber Choir

Jerry Blackstone, music director

The Our Own Thing Chorale

Willis Patterson, music director

Morris Robinson, Porgy

Talise Trevigne, Bess

Norman Garrett, Crown

Chauncey Packer, Sporting Life

Janai Brugger, Clara

Reginald Smith, Jr., Jake

Karen Slack, Serena

Rehanna Thelwell, Maria

Saturday, February 17 // 7:30 pm

Hill Auditorium

UMS and the U-M School of Music, Theatre & Dance (SMTD) present the first-ever performance of the U-M Gershwin Initiative's scholarly performing edition of this landmark score. *Porgy and Bess* is without rival as the most famous 20th-century American opera. Since its 1935 debut, this story of a disabled beggar transformed by the unexpected love of Bess has been performed worldwide and features such well-known songs as "I Got Plenty o' Nuttin'," "My Man's Gone Now," "Summertime," and "It Ain't Necessarily So." In addition to the concert, UMS and SMTD will host related symposia and other educational activities as part of an ongoing scholarly examination of the art of George and Ira Gershwin. Visit ums.org/porgy for details.

Supporting Sponsors: LYCERA Mr. and Mrs. Donald L. Morelock and the Susan B. Ullrich Endowment Fund

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Marketplace Changes

What's a Flower Bar?

Pick-your-own bouquets on North Territorial

Flower Bar occupies a small powder-blue house on the diagonal corner of Pontiac Trail and North Territorial. When we stopped by midday on Wednesday, the intersection and parking lot were both deserted, but owner Laura Huey says "the traffic backs up for miles in the morning" with people traveling between Ann Arbor and South Lyon.

Huey opened the shop in September with her husband, Brett, and their two daughters, Cece and Anna. Though the selection of flowers and plants diminishes in the winter, a collection of buckets is available for customers to choose their own bouquet or have Laura pick one for them. Either way, it's then wrapped in a burlap coffee bag.

In addition to flowers, there's a café serving coffee and tea drinks, smoothies, and baked goods from Livonia's Cantoro Italian Market. There's also a large selection of local artisanal gifts: toffee from Novi, tea towels from Wixom, bath bombs from South Lyon, at least four different brands of handmade candles, plus lotions, jewelry, jams, and more. A shelf of brightly colored dog treats is Cece's pet project—she wants to work in a dog rescue organization when she graduates from Wayne State in May.

There aren't many places to sit: when winter came, Huey moved in the shop's only table and chairs from outside, and there isn't room in the crowded interior for more. She anticipates the café will do most of its business when people can sit outside in warmer weather.

The building previously housed another flower shop, Bokay's; when the owner left the business in 2014 due to health issues, the Hueys saw a chance to fulfill a longtime dream of a small family business. It took three years to redo the



Laura Huey runs the rural flower store, café, and gift shop with daughters Anna and Cece. Husband Brett and son Charlie lend support.

parking lot and interior and persuade Salem Township to rezone the corner. That gave them time to visit other businesses for ideas and merchandise. "We went to every store in Michigan!" laughs Huey.

The name came from a class project Cece did where she had to create an idea for a business. She liked the idea of a choose-your-own flower shop, "like a salad bar!" Cece was trained as a barista for her job at the Livonia Courtyard Marriott, and the rest of the family received training from their supplier: Uncommon Coffee Roasters in Saugatuck.

Bokay's was beloved by locals. "The community would come in and clean her flower buckets for her, pick her food up for her, get her med-

icine," Huey says. That goodwill has carried over to the Flower Bar. "I think that's why we get a lot of men that come in," she says.



Roasting Plant regional manager Mohammad Zeitoun and store manager Jenna Anderson. The pneumatic tubes deliver beans to the roaster.

Flower Bar, 5241 North Territorial. 239-9225. Mon.-Fri. 7:30 a.m.-5 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun. 11 a.m.-3 p.m. facebook.com/FlowerBarLLC

Robocoffee

The Roasting Plant is an automation celebration.

An entirely different kind of coffee shop has come to State St. **Roasting Plant**, a small New York-based chain, opened at State and North University, repurposing the southern half of Amer's Deli.

Roasting Plant's hallmark is its patented "Javabot" system, which fully automates the roasting and portioning parts of coffee making. Javabot's glass tubes snake along the ceiling, tracing the path for the raw beans from nine glass storage tubes to an air roaster and then to the automated coffeemaker. The rest of the shop continues the modern industrial feel: Amer's brick archways have been accented with lots of stainless steel and a minimalist blue neon logo on the wall.

Reached by phone at Roasting Plant's New York headquarters, cofounder Thomas Hartcollis says their "micro-batch" fluid bed roaster creates a fresh, individualized cup for each customer. "Roasted coffee has a shelf life that's relatively short," he says. "It gives off CO₂ for about ten days, during which it's fresh and has a full flavor profile ... After ten days it starts oxidizing and loses most of its flavor. It's kind of like opening a bottle of wine: if you let it breathe for fifteen minutes to two hours it just gets better, but after a few days it loses the flavor and characteristics."

According to Hartcollis, there's a big difference between coffee made with freshly roasted beans and older ones. Noting that bad coffee can be ameliorated with milk and sugar, he says that when customers "drink a cup of Roasting Plant coffee black, it's the

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Zingerman's Times

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February 2018

Printed in Ann Arbor

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Bread of the Month
sourdough round

\$4.75/each (reg. \$6.29/each)

Good enough to ship back to California. Crisp, crackly crust, moist, honeycombed interior and the trademark sour tang that will tickle your tongue.

Roaster's Pick Coffee
brazil full bloom

100% "natural" or dry processed coffee, meaning that the fruit flesh of the coffee cherry was left attached to the bean as it dried. A wonderful balance of chocolate and fruit notes, and for the panorama of flavors it offers sip after sip.

Cheese of the Month
Lincoln Log

This dense, soft-ripened goat cheese is the Creamery's take on the classic bûcheron. As it ages, the paste becomes firmer with a more fudge-like texture and deeper flavor. Covered in a thin bloomy white rind and about 4 inches in diameter, the Lincoln Log is one of the Creamery's most popular offerings.

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zingerman's coffee company is hosting a Grand re-opening!

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Zingerman's Coffee Company is pleased to announce the recent renovation and expansion of its retail café on the south side of Ann Arbor and we want to enjoy the new and improved space with you!

During the weekend of February 24th & 25th, 2018, from 7am-7pm they will be celebrating their Grand Re-Opening. Inside sources have told us they will be featuring:

- Panama Geisha coffee—a rare, limited-release roast!
- Samples of our new toast recipes, with ingredients sourced from within our Zingerman's family.
- The chance to win a fully-loaded coffee gift set, including: a complete brewing system (Chemex brewer, filters, kettle, & scale), a bag of Panama Geisha coffee, a logo tee, and a travel mug.



- NEW toast menu featuring all-day-long recipes sourced from within our Zingerman's family!

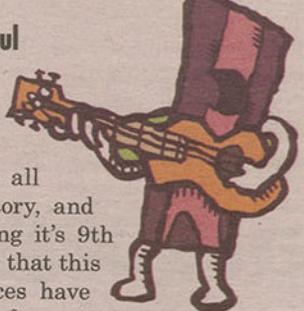
- A never-before-served barista creation and a brand new toast recipe—this weekend only!

- Additionally, on February 24th, 2018 at 10am, Zingerman's Coffee Company Managing Partner, Steve Mangigian, will give a guided tour of our roastery and share about their approach to coffee. Tickets include the tour on Saturday February 24th at 10am, a cup of fresh brewed coffee in our café, and a bag of their limited release Panama Geisha coffee. \$20 per person. Space is limited; purchase your ticket today! zob.me/zctour

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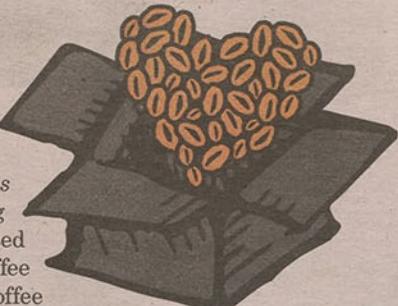
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This Valentine's Day, Times gift guide suggests treating your better half to the limited release Kama Sumatra coffee blend, chocolate-covered coffee beans, and assorted candies from the Zingerman's Candy Manufactory. These limited edition Candy & Coffee Gift Sets will be available at the Zingerman's Coffee Company café and the Zingerman's Candy Manufactory shop February 1st through February 14th.

zingermanscommunity.com/southside

attention food lovers! check it out

Sign up to receive "Ari's Top 5" emails to learn more about what Ari is excited about throughout the land of Zing! zob.me/ai5

If you're looking for some long reads, check out our blog at: zingermanscommunity.com

For short reads, follow us on Twitter: @zingermans



Marketplace Changes

first time they've experienced a really full-flavored tasty cup of coffee without any milk or sugar."

The company employs a "coffee master" to determine the precise temperature, timing, and velocity required to unlock each bean's best flavor. This "roasting profile" is then shared with all of Roasting Plant's Javabot systems. The data cover all possible combinations of the company's nine different beans (customers can create their own blends of up to four). The "supercharged" option uses "30 percent more beans in the same volume of coffee," Hartocollis says.

The barista just inputs the order, places a cup at the machine, and finishes the drink with milk, sugar, and a lid. Roasting Plant also offers smoothies and shakes, plus baked goods made on-site, including a chocolate chip cookie that was voted "The Best Chocolate Chip Cookie In New York City" by Serious Eats.

Hartocollis says so far the two-floor shop has had great success with students—no surprise since it's right off the Diag—but that he wants to reach community members too. Plans for events such as poetry readings are under way.

Roasting Plant, 312 S. State. 999-0203. Daily, 7 a.m.-10 p.m. roastingplant.com

Briefly noted

"The sale officially took place on my fortieth birthday," says Joe Malcoun. "I spent my fortieth birthday in a boardroom ... signing the last documents then waiting in an office of the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. Best birthday present ever," he says with a grin.

In our December 2017 Marketplace Changes item on the sale of the **Blind Pig**, talent buyer Jason Berry credited an unnamed "local businessman" with leading the group that rescued the downtown music club. That mastermind turns out to be Malcoun, CEO of Ann Arbor-based Nutshell software.

"It was funny. For the last year we watched the community fret, we watched the comments on MLive, their Facebook comments about, 'Aw man, I bet the Pig's going to some assholes who'll turn it into some condos,'" Malcoun says. "Well, we didn't. We didn't turn it into some condos. We stepped up."

Malcoun describes the other investors as a "pretty broad group of local folks. Not everyone's giving me their permission to share their names, but there's a few that are pretty particularly notable, given the role they'll play," he says. "We have musicians represented with a friend of mine, Darrin Greenawalt. He has a band called Darrin James Band; he's an investor. [There's also] Noah Kaplan of Leon's Speakers. He's going to redesign the sound stage. My partners, who helped me put the deal together, are Jason Costello and Bennett Borsuk. We have Jon Oberheide; he's one of the founders at Duo" Security, and contractors AI and Josh Bloom. "We

have a great cross section of the Ann Arbor community."

Malcoun says the Pig's longtime owners, the Goffett family, "were awesome—they were really nice folks. It was very emotional. When we purchased it, they asked us to take care of it. They wished us well."

"They didn't disappear. If we have questions, they give us help. They truly want to see us succeed. We're very lucky we have a great relationship with them."

At this early stage, he says, "we're just observing and seeing what's normal for the place. We're talking and getting to know the staff every weekend; we're trying to get these new systems set up. We're trying to design the website, and we're reinvesting in the ticketing system, so they'll be in and out quickly. Honestly, I don't think people are going to see a lot of change."

But Malcoun, who admits that he's a fan first, insists that the key to the Blind Pig's future success is giving Berry the freedom to invest in more local talent.

"The prior owners built it; they made it the thing that you and I love. [But] in recent years, there wasn't as much of an investment in local music, and there's less risk being taken overall. One of the big changes was telling Jason to do what he wants to do. If he wants to book more local music, we're going to do more of that."

Malcoun stresses, though, that the venue can't succeed without a supportive audience. "My hope is that the community, who vocalized that they didn't want it to become a condo, show their support [by] coming out and supporting the Pig. Because truth is, without that support, we can't keep it from turning into condos one day."

The Blind Pig, 208 S. First. 996-8555. Daily 3 p.m.-2 a.m. blindpigmusic.com

In the Works

What is going on at M&Y?" asks a chalked message on a large wall in the backroom of **Morgan & York**. The answer: the longtime wine store and specialty grocer is trading its state license to sell bottled hard alcohol for a license to serve it.

The store will be undergoing renovations to better fit a bar, but the deli will be staying, along with the food, coffee, and retail wine and beer.

Owner Tommy York explains: "What happened over the last twenty years is the grocery stores realized that they should carry these perishable, really delicious products. So our grocery stores are super awesome now, which leaves us in a declining revenue situation."

York, whose former partner Matt Morgan hinted at moving toward serving alcohol when he left the business in 2016, is also planning on a few more changes. "We're gonna bring in a florist, [and] Ricewood's gonna move inside," he says of the barbecue food truck that's been on the property since 2015. He says a gel-

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CHEF'S TABLE

by Harriet Seaver



Years ago in our customer survey, you told us tacos were your favorite food item at a Mexican restaurant. We're taking your word for it and declaring 2018 "The Year of the Taco".

This means we'll be playing in the kitchen and making new tacos all year! Our first new offering will be a Tios take on the al pastor taco. Unctuous (what a wonderful word) pork belly in our chile rich sauce, grilled pineapple pieces and diced onion on a corn tortilla. The possibilities are endless as evidenced by the list my son handed me. Whew, it's going to be a busy, delicious year. Hope you will join us!

tíos



BAKER'S CORNER

By Jessica Gerstenberger



A year of rotating tacos? Sign me up. How about dessert tacos? Sign me up for those too. There is no limit to what we can make. Home-made



choco-tacos, done. Shortbread taco shell with lemon filling, done. Can I make a churro taco hybrid? I'm going to try!

HOT HEADS

by Tim Seaver



I wanted to tell you about a few hot sauces that will make you OINK! We have Bacon Hot Sauce out of San Francisco—not too spicy, but full of flavor. With a rich, smoky smell, the first flavors that will hit you are bright and sharp, followed up by earthy smoke flavors reminiscent of bacon and barbecue. Don't worry though, you can definitely pig out on this sauce with a heat level of about a 3 out of 10. If this sauce doesn't make you as happy as a pig in mud, we do have a few hotter! Both made by Voodoo Chile in Virginia, Porcus Infernum and Bacon Taco boast a higher spice level, about 4 and 7 respectively. Stop on by to swine about how cold it is, and to warm up with these great hot sauces!

FATHER TEQUILA

by Jeremy Seaver



My doctor told me each piece of bacon I eat takes 9 minutes off my life. Based on that math I should have died in 1732. What has that got to do with tequila? Absolutely nothing, but—spoil alert—our version of an al pastor taco this month uses pork belly, aka really thick bacon. If you need me to tell you which tequila goes well with that the answer is all of them. I myself like the idea of a smoky, aged expression to compliment the guajillo and ancho pepper flavors of the al pastor marinade. I am starting with Maestro Dobbel Anejo. A great pair. Salud!

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Marketplace Changes

to truck will be taking Ricewood's place outside.

Even bigger plans are afoot. York is taking on three new partners, who are buying out Morgan's shares. They'll tear down an old storage building on the property and build a brewery. A currently unused lot to the side of the building will provide more parking for future customers.

Plans for the brewery won't be set in motion until next year, but York is aiming to get all of the interior changes done by April. He'll keep the café open throughout, because "the buying cycle for coffee is twenty-four hours—so if you shut down, you're basically sending all your regular customers to your competition. You want people to at least be able to come in and get a pastry and a coffee."

York says the name for this new venture is still under consideration. "I wanna call it Porchlight Community Center, but everyone says that's a stupid name." He tells us the working name is "York Commons ... which sounds like 'your commons' if you say it fast!"

*Morgan & York, 1928 Packard.
662-0798. Mon.-Fri 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m.,
Sat. 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
morganandyork.co*

Closings

One year after its originally scheduled departure, **English Gardens** has finally left Maple Village. President John Darin is clear about the terms of the exit: "We're not leaving by our choice."

According to Darin, the garden store had been part of the landlords' plan to bring the shopping center up to a new level. They had discussed upgrades to the facility and a new greenhouse that English Gardens already had "designed and ready to go." But then Brixmor Property Group, "decided to go in a different direction." The departure was delayed twice from the originally scheduled January 2017 date, but after a weeklong liquidation sale, the building was vacated in early January.

"We're actually disappointed we stayed there all those years waiting for a transition of the center," says Darin. "Now the center is transitioned and business has improved, and we're not gonna be there."

So far, English Gardens has not been able to find a new Ann Arbor location, but Darin says they continue to look. In the meantime, they are offering free Garden Club memberships, which give 10 percent off all non-sale merchandise, to all Ann Arbor customers. Darin says they are also setting up free local delivery in Ann Arbor one day a week. He urges customers to go to englishgardens.com to sign up for their free membership and continued email updates.

The sixty-three-year-old Michigan staple has five remaining locations in Southeast Michigan. Darin says that Dearborn Heights and West Bloomfield Township are the two closest, and that customers can continue to purchase products and services

online or over the phone while the search for an Ann Arbor location continues.

After just eight months at Washtenaw Commons, **Jamba Juice** has left Ann Arbor. While spots in the newly built strip mall have been steadily filling up with restaurants like Dickey's Barbecue Pit and the upcoming Poke Fish, the internationally prominent smoothie joint quietly packed up and left in late November.

Jamba Juice was in direct competition with national competitor Tropical Smoothie Cafe, located on the same side of Washtenaw just across Pittsfield Blvd. It seems likely that both signed leases without being aware of the other: Tropical Smoothie Cafe opened in December 2016, just five months before Jamba Juice. Jamba's closest remaining franchise locations are in Livonia and Shelby Township—a considerable drive for the patrons who won promotions at the grand opening like "free smoothies for a year."

Giardino's on Jackson Rd. closed its doors in early October. Not to be confused with Chicago deep-dish staple Giordano's, Giardino's opened in July 2013 and served a variety of Italian dishes including oven-baked sandwiches, calzones, and twenty-three signature pizzas. A post on the restaurant's Facebook page says, "Regrettably, after five years, Giardino's closing its Restaurant doors. We are truly grateful to everyone who has supported us."

A year ago, we covered the opening of **Packard Discount Pharmacy** and owner Ridhwan "Ray" Albaneh's strategy to compete with giant chains like Walgreens and CVS. Unfortunately, it appears that low costs and personal service weren't enough. In November, a gate was drawn over his storefront at Packard and Platt, and "for rent" signs were posted in the windows. A few websites list a new "Packard Discount Pharmacy" in Dearborn, but our message to the new number went unreturned.

After a November sale of the Main and William BP gas station, **The Little Store Too** has been forced out of its small spot in the back of the building. "We really loved the place," says Aaron Carmichael, who with his wife, Christina Fensom, prepared and delivered "small-batch comfort food."

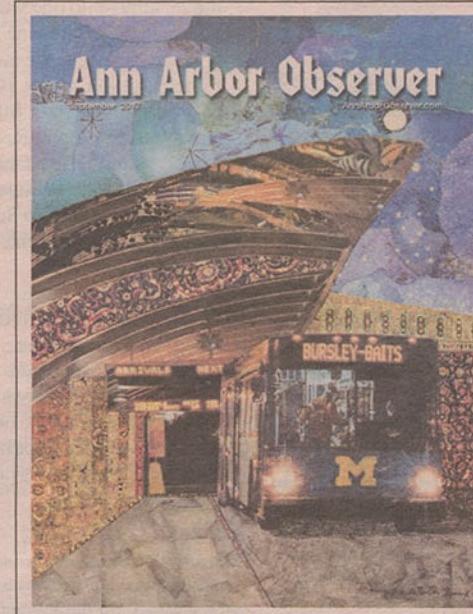
The Little Store Too was a "sequel" to Carmichael and Fensom's original Highland Township location. Carmichael says they'd like to stick around in Ann Arbor if they can, but so far they haven't had any luck in finding a new place: "If anyone knows of a spot, we'd be happy to come check it out!"

As of mid-January there were no signs of a major change at the station, but apparently one big one is in the works: the city has issued a permit for a new **Mobil** sign. ■

Got a retail or restaurant change?
Email sabine@aaobserver.com or leave
voicemail at 769-3175 x 322.

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Music at Nightspots

by Katie Whitney

Listings are based on information available at press time. Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com, but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.

ABC Microbrewery

720 Norris St., Ypsilanti 480-2739

This casual brewpub features live music, Mon. 7-9 p.m. and occasional other nights. No cover, no dancing. February schedule TBA.

Ann Arbor Distilling Co.

220 Felch 882-2169

This boutique distillery features occasional live music in its Tiny Corner stage in the tasting room (or on the patio in summer if the weather is nice), 7-9 p.m. (except Sun., 5:30-7:30 p.m.). **Every Sun.: The Brennan Andes Trio.** Jazz ensemble led by Macpodz bassist Andes. **Feb. 2: Brody Buster.**

Country-folk one-man band from Kansas. **Feb. 3: Daniel Onyango.** Traditional Kenyan music by this Nairobi-bred musician who plays the *nyatiti*, an 8-string plucked lyre. **Feb. 9: T-Bone Paxton & the RJ Spangler Trio.** A mix of classic jazz and blues by this Detroit trio led by drummer Spangler, with trombonist-vocalist Paxton. **Feb. 10: Jen Sygit.** Lansing singer-songwriter and guitarist known for her bluesy lyrics, down-home music, and sultry vocals. **Feb. 16: Ryan Racine.** Veteran local alt-country honky-tonk and rockabilly singer-songwriter. **Feb. 17: Jay Frydenlund.** Chirp singer-guitarist who plays rock 'n' roll, blues, and folk covers and originals. **Feb. 23: Cedars.** Local jazz ensemble led by tenor saxophonist-composer Dan Bennett. **Feb. 24: Elisabeth Beckwitt.** Boston-bred, Nashville-based pop-folk singer-songwriter who specializes in self-styled "songs of hope and understanding for the unheard."

The Ark

316 S. Main 761-1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional and roots music and contemporary songwriting. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.-Sat. & 7:30 p.m., Sun., unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office and theark.org, and at the door. **Feb. 1: Rachael Yamagata.** Blues-inflected alt-rock by this singer-songwriter and keyboardist from Virginia whose music reflects an array of vintage influences from Carole King and Roberta Flack to James Taylor and Elton John. Her songs have been featured on the soundtracks of several TV shows. \$20. **Feb. 2: Sideline.** Bluegrass quintet composed of veteran North Carolina-based session musicians and sidemen who came together to make music rooted in the progressive styles of the 1980s & 1990s. \$20. **Feb. 3: Mustard's Retreat.** Longtime local favorites Michael Hough and David Tamulevich perform both traditional songs and original pieces that alternate between Hough's sometimes spellbinding, sometimes humorous narrative ballads, and Tamulevich's poignant lyrical songs. According to songwriter Garnet Rogers, Mustard's Retreat "represents everything that is best about folk music. Their songs have entered the lexicon of anonymous folk songs." Both Hough and Tamulevich are accomplished guitarists, and they also play banjo, mandolin, flute, Autoharp, harmonica, and tin whistle. \$20. **Feb. 6: Kuinka.** Exuberant Americana-flavored pop-rock by this young Seattle string quartet that comes to town with a new EP, *Stay Up Late*. With mandolinist and ukulele player Nathan Hamer, guitarist Zach Hamer, banjoist Miranda Zickler, and cellist Jillian Walker. Opening act is **The Accidentals**, the wildly acclaimed nationally touring Traverse City folk trio of multi-instrumentalists (and recent high school grads) Katie Larson and Savannah Buist and percussionist Michael Dause. Z93 FM (Grand Rapids) DJ Matt Mansfield says they give "an edge to folk with unique instrumentation," adding that they "combine musicality, originality and melodic beauty with a welcome and unexpected bite to clever lyrics." \$15. **Feb. 7: 10 String Symphony and Mark Lavengood.** Chamber bluegrass double bill. The Nashville-based duo 10 String Symphony is made up of fiddler-vocalists Rachel Bairman and Christian Sedelmyer whose vibrant, tightly woven music has been described by the *Bluegrass Situation* as "aggressive, almost discordant, Celtic and dare I say punky string-chording experimentations." Best known as a former member of Lindsay Lou & the

Wire in the Wood

Bluegrass Night

When farm-raised U-M undergrad Chad Williams started WCBN-FM's *Bill Monroe for Breakfast* program in 1995, it was a gutsy move: almost no one was playing bluegrass in our town. But the scene has grown consistently since then, and the launch of Detroit Street Filling Station's new Bluegrass Wednesdays in January brought a full house to the restaurant. With Michigan Radio moving the repeat of ace mandolinist Chris Thile's *Live from Here* music variety show (formerly *A Prairie Home Companion*) to Sunday night in a bid to capture younger listeners, bluegrass seems to be having a moment.

The Filling Station's house band, Wire in the Wood, describes itself as a "prog-bluegrass locomotive pulling a lonesome psych-folk boxcar and a swingin' Hot-Club caboose." Their shows are put together to draw a varied crowd; one of the players was involved with the popular Bluegrass Nights at the Circus Bar a few years back, so they know what they're doing.

In its root form Wire in the Wood is a trio, singing mostly originals by vocalist-guitarist Billy Kirst along with classic and traditional bluegrass numbers. The other members are bassist Ryan Shea and Jordan Adema, whose instrument is billed as a violin, not a fiddle.

Adema can play it both ways, sawing out the old-time numbers but cultivating

the smoother West Coast style even with, at times, a bit of vibrato. For the second set the band brought other musicians aboard, turning in the direction of classic jazz tunes like "Exactly Like You" before veering back to bluegrass, now roughed up with a banjo, at the end. "Bring your instruments," says the Facebook event page, and this band has the vocabulary to adapt to whoever does.

The restaurant is set up nicely for acoustic music, with a single pillar setting the



music area off but not blocking sight lines. The acoustics work: you can talk or listen, and neither group will bother the other. In January, solo guitarist Jake Reichbart was playing on other nights, and one night was booked for Lesbo Bingo. Whenever you go, the food's good, the kitchen's open late (a tough find downtown on a midwinter weekday), and the place is cozy without being crowded.

—James M. Manheim

Flatbellys, Lavengood is a singer-songwriter and multi-instrumental virtuoso who is currently focusing on the dobro. He has a brand-new CD, *We've Come Along*, and tonight he performs with his band. \$15. **Feb. 8: A Brighter Way.** A benefit concert for this Avalon Housing mentoring program for people returning to Washtenaw County from incarceration. The lineup of local luminaries includes singer-songwriters **Chris Buhalis and Annie & Rod Capps**, the R&B duo **George Friend & Laura Rain**, boogie-woogie & blues pianist **Mark "Mr. B" Braun**, the Chelsea classic rock band **M-22**, a garage rock band led by vocalist **Dan Mulholland**, the British Invasion cover band **The Invasion**, a *Velvet Underground* tribute band led by bassist Dave Sharp, the eclectic vintage pop-rock cover band **FUBAR**, and the progressive bluegrass string quartet **Wire in the Wood** (see review, above). \$15-\$100. 7:30 p.m. **Feb. 9: Cheryl Wheeler.** This versatile veteran singer-songwriter is known for her hauntingly pure voice, biting sense of humor, and alternately poignant and whimsical songs about human relationships and everyday life. Her songs have been recorded by the likes of Suzy Bogguss, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, and Bette Midler. Opening act is **Kenny White**, a New York City singer-songwriter and pianist who writes frank, funny, sophisticated songs in various genres, including classical, jazz, 60s rock, and country. \$25. **Feb. 10: Lucy Kaplansky.** This acclaimed singer-songwriter, a former clinical psychologist, is known for her strong, supple voice and her wryly engaging blues- and country-flavored ballads. "Kaplansky's voice has a tender, vulnerable, confessional quality, and she consistently uses it to her advantage in neatly tailored acoustic settings," says *Washington Post* reviewer Mike Joyce. \$20. **Feb. 11: Kitty Donohoe.** This Irish-American singer-songwriter from Detroit is known for her bell-like soprano—an instrument that has been described as "rich, flexible, soaring, and haunting"—and her grittily realistic, bluesy original songs. In its review of her latest CD *Northern Border, Sing Out!* calls her "one of the rare singer-songwriters to sensuously weave words and melody into a strong and mesmerizing fabric." \$15. **Feb. 12: Albert Lee.** A veteran English electric guitar virtuoso whom Eric Clapton calls "the greatest guitarist in the world," Lee is a master of just about every style of Anglo-American vernacular music, but he is best known for his influence on country guitarists, both from his stints in the bands of Emmylou Harris, Rodney Crowell, and the Everly Brothers and from his own "Country Boy," which helped redefine country guitar. \$25. **Feb. 13: Daimh.** Traditional Scottish music from pyrotechnic jigs and reels to achingly poignant ballads by this popular acoustic band that was recently named Scots Trad Band of the Year at the Scots Traditional Music Awards. \$16. **Feb. 14: My Folky Valentine.** In-the-round performances by local singer-songwriters **Annie & Rod Capps** and 2 other area married and partnered singer-songwriter couples: Detroit blues-folk singer-songwriter **Jan Krist** and her drummer husband, **Alan Finkbeiner** and Detroit-area folk-rock singer-songwriter **Allison Downey** and her bassist husband, **John Austin**. \$20. **Feb. 15: Crystal Bowerson.** Soulful country-flavored folk-rock singer-songwriter from northern Ohio who was the runner-up on the 9th season of *American Idol* in 2010. She has since released 3 CDs, including the new Americana-flavored *Alive*. Opening act is **Watching for Foxes**, a self-styled "flannel rock" septet from Grand Rapids whose influences range from Mumford & Sons to the Head & the Heart. "The mournful, yet-somehow-sanguine tracks constructed by frontman Joey Frendo and his Grand Rapids ensemble build to dynamic, emotion-infused crescendos marked by moody sound effects, gorgeous harmonies and rich, diverse instrumentation. As a result, there's almost a cinematic quality to significant portions of *Undone Bird*," says localspins.com writer John Sinkevics in his review of the band's 2017 CD. \$25. **Feb. 16: Enter the Haggis.** Popular Toronto quintet whose music is a rousing, raucous blend of Scottish and Canadian Celtic music with rock, bluegrass, Caribbean, and world music. Instrumentation includes fiddle, bagpipes, tin whistle, guitars, keyboards, and drums. \$20. **Feb. 17: Brandy Clark.** Clark is a veteran multi-Grammy-winning songwriter whose darkly humorous songs about variously defeated individuals have been recorded by everyone from Reba McEntire and LeAnn Rimes to Sheryl Crow and Miranda Lambert. Her own 2016 CD, *Big Day in a Small Town*, reached #8 on the country charts. \$20. **Feb. 18: Finvarra's Wren.** Traditional Irish, Scottish, English, and Celtic-American dances and carols by this Detroit-area multigenerational quartet led by singer-guitarist Jim Perkins. With Cheryl Burns on bodhran and mountain dulcimer, Alison Perkins on fiddle and whistle, and Asher Perkins on button accordion and concertina. \$15. **Feb. 19: Béla Fleck & Abigail Washburn.** Duo of 2 Ark audiences favorite banjoists who are now husband and wife. Fleck is the founding banjoist of the seminal progressive bluegrass outfit New Grass Revival. Known for his penchant for pushing the bluegrass idiom in the direction of jazz, funk, and worldbeat, he has performed at the Ark with a number of different ensembles—including Washburn's Sparrow Quartet—over the past 3 decades. After first gaining attention early in this century as a member of the Ann Arbor-based old-time music group Uncle Earl, Washburn lived in China for a while in her early 20s, coming away with a repertoire of traditional and original songs, sung in English and Mandarin and accompanied on banjo in sparse arrangements that have some of the concentrated quiet of the music she heard in China. The duo has a brand-new CD, *Echo in the Valley*. \$45-\$85. **Feb. 20: Jason Hawk Harris.** Classically trained young singer-songwriter and guitarist with a new EP, *Formaldehyde, Tobacco, and Tulips*, that showcases what he calls his "meta-apocalyptic country/Americana grief-grass." FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **Feb. 21: Open Stage.** All acoustic performers invited. Fifteen acts are selected randomly from those who sign up to perform 8 minutes (or 2 songs) each. The most talented and popular Open Stage performers are offered their own evenings at the Ark. \$3 (members & students, \$2). **Feb. 22: Ten Strings and a Goat Skin.** Traditional Celtic music of the Canadian Maritimes, sung in French and English and performed in an energetic modern style by this widely acclaimed trio from Prince Edward Island. \$15. **Feb. 23: Raul Midón.** NYC-based veteran jazz-soul singer-songwriter from New Mexico known for his passionate singing and his distinctive, heavily percussive guitar stylings that draw on flamenco music. \$20. **Feb. 25: Vance Gilbert.** African American singer-songwriter from Cambridge, MA, who, according to *Boston Globe* reviewer Craig Harris, sings "in a soulful, Al Jarreau-like voice, accompanying himself with heavily syncopated acoustic guitar melodies." Gilbert's songs address a range of topics from the experience of being nonwhite in America to the hard inner life of single parents, and they are distinguished by a subtle sense of rhythm and a trenchant sense of humor. \$15. **Feb. 26: The Wind + The Wave.** Austin duo of singer-songwriter Patty Lynn and songwriter-guitarist Dwight Baker known for its emotionally searching personal songs in a variety of styles from indie-folk and alt-country to blues-rock and Southern psychedelia. Its songs are regularly featured in TV show soundtracks, and it has a brand-new CD, *Happiness Is Not a Place*. \$15. **Feb. 27: Ladysmith Black Mambazo.** Most Americans discovered Ladysmith Black Mambazo on Paul Simon's 1986 *Graceland* album, but this celebrated black South African male a cappella chorus has been around since 1958, when it was founded by lead tenor Joseph Shabalala as the Durban Choir. The group is the prime exponent of "isicathamiya," the indigenous music of rural black workers in South African cities. At once celebratory and mournful, this music fashions an exhilarating fusion of playful, antic craftiness and somber, haunting spirituality, and is accompanied with mesmerizing effect by equally intricate dance movements. \$45. **Feb. 28: Open Stage.** See above.

Avalon Café & Kitchen
120 E. Liberty 263-2966
Downtown café features live acoustic music, Fri. & Sat., 6-9 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 2: Daniel Ackerman.** Solo performance by this Wych Elm singer and multi-instrumentalist. **Feb. 3: Neal Anderson.** Local jazz trumpeter. **Feb. 9: Nadim Azam.** Local pop-oriented hip-hop singer-songwriter

whose new EP, *Here's To Changes Vol. 1*, is a collection of songs about love and loneliness he wrote as a troubled teen. **Feb. 10 & 16: Harrington Brown.** Local guitar duo of Michael Harrington and Appleseed Collective frontman Andrew Brown. **Feb. 17: Nick Small.** Versatile local young singer-songwriter. **Feb. 23: Jordan Smith.** Solo performance by this lead guitarist for the Burlington (VT) funk-rock band Funkwagon. **Feb. 24: Nadiem Azzam.** See above.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington **214-9995**

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat. 7-11 p.m. Cover, dancing.

Babs' Underground

213 S. Ashley **997-0800**

This downtown lounge features live music Wed., 11 p.m.-2 a.m. DJ on Thurs., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Dave Menzo.** This local pop-rock singer-songwriter uses guitar, bass, synths, and other electronics to improvise instrumental tracks on the spot to sing with. His recent CD, *Shhh*, is a collection of cinematic soundscapes created entirely with acoustic, electric, and electronic instruments from the Ann Arbor District Library Music Tools collection.

Bel-Mark Lanes

3530 Jackson **864-6095**

The café inside this westside bowling alley features occasional live music. Karaoke, Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Feb. 25: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late 1930s swing and 1940s R&B. 6-8 p.m.

The Blind Pig

208 S. First St. **996-8555**

This local club features live music most Wed.-Sat. and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7-10 p.m. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at blindpigmusic.com/calendard. **Feb. 1: Noah Gundersen.** Seattle pop-folk singer-songwriter whose 2015 solo debut, *Ledges*, is a collection of songs that—in a manner reminiscent of Leonard Cohen—commingle the sensual and the sexual with the spiritual. He has a brand-new CD, *White Noise*. Opening act is Noah's sister, pop-rock singer-songwriter **Elizabeth Gundersen**. Advance tickets: \$18. **Feb. 2: Shredders.** Minneapolis hip-hop quartet. Opening act is **Astronautall**, an indie country/hip-hop MC from Florida who once said his ambition is to "be the Van Morrison of this rap shit." Advance tickets: \$20. **Feb. 3: "Decompress."** A closing night celebration of the University Musical Society "No Safety Net" festival, with performances by the Detroit-based **Seraphine Collective** of feminist musicians and artists and other artists featured over the course of the 3-week festival. **Feb. 7: These Are Trees.** Milan alternative rock quartet. Opening acts are **Drum & Bass Connection**, a Saline duo whose music blends rock, blues, jazz, funk, and reggae, and **Conspicuous Bystanders**, a Lansing rock 'n' roll quartet. **Feb. 8: Mary Lambert.** All ages admitted. Lesbian R&B and pop-folk singer-songwriter and spoken word artist who co-wrote Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' marriage-equality anthem "Same Love." Opening act is **Mal Blum**, a Brooklyn-based punk-folk singer-songwriter. Advance tickets: \$18 (\$20 at the door). 8 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 10: The Stellar.** Local indie rock duo. Opening acts are **The Kelseys**, a local rock quartet, and **Shmongo**, a local ska-flavored rock sextet. **Feb. 11: Magic Giant.** Los Angeles Americana pop band that plays infectious sing-alongs and tunes that blend folk instruments with big drums and dance rhythms. Opening act is **The Brevet**, a southern California alternative rock quartet. Advance tickets: \$12 (\$15 at the door). 7:30-11 p.m. **Feb. 13: Rhyta Musik.** Balkan dance party with this local 8-piece Balkan brass band whose music is sprinkled with New Orleans funk flavors. Preceded at 8 p.m. by dance lessons. 8:30 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 14: Luxotica Lounge Café.** Valentine's Day show by this nationally touring burlesque show that blends striptease, circus sideshow acts, and live cabaret music. Advance tickets: \$12 (\$15 at the door). **Feb. 18: Talib Kweli.** All ages admitted. Widely acclaimed veteran Brooklyn (NY) socially conscious hip-hop MC. Opening act is **Niko Is**, a Brazilian hip-hop MC, who is joined by **DJ Spinctalect**. Advance tickets: \$28. 8 p.m.-midnight. **Feb. 21: Big Something.** Burlington (NC) alternative funk-rock sextet known for its exuberant performing style. Advance tickets: \$10. **Feb. 22: "Michigan House."** With Michigan electronic dance musicians **Nydge**, **Alexander Lynch**, **Lady**

Ace Boogie, and **Madelyn Grant**. Advance tickets: \$10 (\$12 at the door). **Feb. 23: Pajamas.** Local pop-rock jam trio. Opening act is **Honey Monsoon**, an Ypsilanti jazz-rock trio. **Feb. 24: That 1 Guy.** The stage name of Mike Silverman, a Las Vegas-based classically trained bassist who has created his own instrument, the Magic Pipe, which his website describes as a "system of electronically wired steel plumbing, shaped somewhat like a harp, with a thick bass string wired from top to bottom and a hole that billows smoke during the climax of his live shows." Advance tickets, \$15.

The Blue Nile

221 E. Washington **998-4746**

This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin and other friends TBA.

Bona Sera

200 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti **340-6335**

This Ypsilanti restaurant features occasional live music in its underground lounge, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, cover. **Feb. 2: "Ypsi Pride."** Dance party & drag show. **Feb. 9: "Friends with Benefits Dance Party."** Dance party with a DJ. Proceeds benefit a charity TBA. **Feb. 17: Guilty Pleasures Burlesque.** Local burlesque and comedy troupe. Followed by a dance party with **DJ Selina Style**. Age 21 & older. 8-11 p.m.

Café Verde

214 N. Fourth Ave. **994-9174**

This café in the People's Food Co-op features acoustic musicians and duos, Thurs. 6-8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 1: Kevin Brown.** Veteran local singer-songwriter, one of the frontmen of the alt-country band Corndaddy. **Feb. 8 & 15: TBA.** **Feb. 22: San & Emily.** Duo of veteran local folk singer-songwriter San Slomovits (one-half of the nationally renowned local duo Gemini) and his daughter, violinist Emily Slomovits.

Canterbury House

721 E. Huron **665-0606**

This U-M Episcopal student center features biweekly jazz jams & occasional jazz ensembles. No cover, no dancing.

Chelsea Alehouse Brewery

420 N. Main, ste. 100

Chelsea **475-2337**
Note: The Alehouse is relocating to 115 S. Main sometime in early 2018. This brewpub features live music Sun. 2-4 p.m. & 6-8 p.m., Wed. 8-10 p.m., and occasional Fri. & Sat. 8:30-11 p.m. \$5 suggested donation, no dancing. All ages admitted. **1st & 3rd Sun.: Celtic Jam Session.** All musicians invited to join a biweekly jam session. 2-4 p.m. **Every 2nd Sun.: "Song Circle."** All invited to drop in to play their work or just listen. Hosted by veteran singer-songwriter Annie Capps. 2-5 p.m. **Every Sun.: The Wes Fritzeimer Jazz Experience.** With the Chelsea ensemble of pianist Brian Brill, bassist Jed Fritzeimer, and drummer Wes Fritzeimer. 6-8 p.m. **Every 2nd Tues.: Open Mike.** All musicians and other performers invited. 8 p.m. **Every Wed.: Thunderwüde.** Bluegrass and related roots music by the Chelsea trio of guitarists Jason Dennis and Tommy Reifel and multi-instrumentalist Wes Fritzeimer.

The Club Above

215 N. Main **686-4012**

This dance club on the top floor of the Heidelberg restaurant features live music Fri. & Sat., and occasional other nights, 9:30 p.m.-2 a.m. (doors at 9 p.m.). Also, **comedy open mike** Tues. 10 p.m.-midnight, and DJs occasional Wed. & Thurs. 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, cover. Age 21 & older admitted. **Feb. 1: "90s/2000s Night."** With DJ Pat. **Feb. 2: "GypSy."** DJs with hip-hop and electronic dance music. **Feb. 3: Zombie Manana.** Chicago psychedelic rock quartet. Opening acts are **Act Casual**, a local rock, blues, and funk quintet and **Honey Monsoon**, an Ypsilanti jazz-rock trio. **Feb. 9: Liquid Thickness.** Local funk-rock septet. Opening acts are **Speak Mahogany**, a local jazz-inflected neo-soul hip-hop ensemble, and **Paddlebots**, a high-energy Michigan progressive soul-pop duo. **Feb. 17: B-Side Beatles.** Local Beatles tribute band. Opening acts are the rockabilly-oriented and Elvis tribute artists **Shay Allen** and **Colin Dexter**. **Feb. 21: Future Teens.** Boston self-styled "bedroom pop" indie rock quartet that recently released the CD, *Bored and Alone*. Opening acts are the local pop-rock band **Fallow Land**, the Detroit indie rock band **Alchemists**,

and the Ferndale pop-rock band **Get Tall**. 8 p.m. **Feb. 22: Low Hanging Fruit.** Boulder hip-hop ensemble. **Feb. 23: "Patches O'Malley Presents."** DJs with electronic dance music.

Conor O'Neill's

318 S. Main **665-2968**

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30-10 p.m. and Thurs.-Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Feb. 1: Zak Shaffer.** Nashville-based postpunk folk-rock singer-songwriter. **Feb. 3: Barbarossa Brothers.** Saginaw bayou-inflected Americana trio that cites Levon Helm as its main influence. **Feb. 8: Mike Gentry.** Local pop-folk singer-songwriter whom longtime *Guitar Player* editor Jas Obrecht praises as "brilliant at coffeehouse-approved acoustic music, blistering hard rock, and most styles in between." **Feb. 10: Corndaddy.** Local alt-country band led by singer-songwriters Kevin Brown and Jud Branam, whose music filters early 70s country-rock through the influences of bluegrass, power pop, and British Invasion bombast. **Feb. 15: Open Mike.** All performers invited; sign-up begins at 8 p.m. Hosted by singer-songwriter Adam Labeaux. **Feb. 20: Alex Mendenhall.** Lansing singer-songwriter whose songs blend elements of soul, folk, funk, and jazz. **Feb. 22: Banana Migration.** Local reggae & blues band.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room

114 S. Main **665-9468**

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8-10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **February 2: Jen Cass & The Lucky News.** Bluesy Americana roots-rock by an ensemble led by veteran Detroit singer-songwriter Jen Cass. **February 3: Eastward Bound.** Duo of Luti Erbeznik and John Finan. Erbeznik is a Milford singer-songwriter and guitarist who sings in a voice that's been compared to Nick Drake and whose music blends American folk, rock, and pop forms with the rhythms and colorings of the music of his native Yugoslavia. Finan is a Canton singer-songwriter who writes country-tinged folk-pop. **February 9: Phil McMillion.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-songwriter. **February 10: Dr. Mike & the Sea Monkeys.** Whitmore Lake acoustic duo whose quirky, funny, and sometimes heartrending blues and folk-style originals are based on work of frontman Mike Ball, an award-winning humorist and nationally syndicated columnist. **February 16: Jere Stormer.** Urban folk originals and covers by this singer-songwriter from Ferndale. **February 17: John Churchillville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **February 23: Rochelle Clark.** Chelsea singer-songwriter who's half of the Americana duo The Potter's Field. **February 24: Beverly Meyer.** Singer-songwriter with a rich, soulful voice whose emotionally engaging songs draw on blues, jazz, folk, and pop idioms.

Detroit St. Filling Station

300 Detroit **224-2161**

Restaurant near Kerrystown with live music, Wed. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: "Bluegrass Wednesday."** See review, p. 48. The local progressive bluegrass string quartet **Wire in the Wood** performs a set and then hosts a jam session during a 2nd set.

Dreamland Theater

26 N. Washington, Ypsilanti **657-2337**

This downtown Ypsilanti theater features occasional live music. Cover (usually a donation), dancing. February schedule TBA.

The Earle

121 W. Washington **994-0211**

Restaurant with live jazz Tues.-Thurs. 7-9 p.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8-11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Tues.-Thurs.: Jake Reichbart.** Solo jazz guitarist. Solo jazz pianists TBA occasionally substitute. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Rick Burgess Trio.** Jazz ensemble, named after the late jazz pianist and Earle cofounder Burgess, featuring drummer Robert Warren and a rotating roster of bassists and pianists.

The Elks Lodge

220 Sunset **761-7172**

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Fri. & Sat. 6-10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except



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February 1, 2, & 3



Andy Woodhull
February 8, 9, & 10



Valentine's Weekend
Kira Soltanovich
February 16 & 17



L.A. Hardy
February 22, 23, & 24

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Questions?

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OBAMA The Call of History



TUESDAY,
FEBRUARY 13, 2018
7:00 P.M.

GERALD R. FORD PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY

Join us as Chief White House Correspondent for the New York Times, Peter Baker, talks about his recent publication on President Obama. Baker takes the measure of Obama's achievements and disappointments in the office and bring into focus the real legacy of the man.

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At the corner of Beal Ave. and Fuller opposite VA Hospital

Music at Nightspots

for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Feb. 15: Hip-Hop Open Mike.** All hip-hop artists invited.

Guy Hollerin's

3600 Plymouth Rd. 769-9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. (except holiday weekends), 8 p.m.-midnight. Cover, dancing. **Feb. 3: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **Feb. 10: The Stomp Rockets.** Garage-rock quartet led by vocalist Dan Mulholland, the former leader of the Watusis, the Vibratrons, and several other great local rock 'n' roll bands. **Feb. 17: The Alligators.** Detroit R&B and blues band. **Feb. 24: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock.

The Habitat Lounge

3050 Jackson Rd. 665-3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.-Thurs. 8:45 p.m.-12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.-1:30 a.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.-midnight, and solo pianists Tues.-Sun., 6-8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: EventJazz.** Jazz originals and standards by different piano-based trios and quartets each show, led by bassist Rob Crozier. **Every Mon. (except Feb. 5): Cetan Clawson.** Monroe psychedelic blues-rock trio. **Every Tues.: Dave Menzo.** See Babs'. **Feb. 2: Dan Rafferty Band.** Popular 8-piece Detroit pop dance band. **Feb. 3: Atomic Radio.** Detroit quartet that plays 70s-90s rock and pop favorites. **Feb. 5: Mechal White.** Dexter ambient smooth jazz musician and DJ, aka The Groovemaster. **Feb. 7 & 8: Slice.** Veteran East Lansing pop dance quartet. **Feb. 9 & 10: Freelance.** Local dance rock cover band whose repertoire ranges from Earth, Wind & Fire and Stevie Wonder to AC/DC and Guns & Roses to Maroon 5 and Bruno Mars. **Feb. 14: Wych Elm.** Local string sextet that plays a stylishly pungent, soul-infused mix of folk, rock, jazz, and old-time music. **Feb. 15: Cetan Clawson.** See above. **Feb. 16: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. **Feb. 17: Chateau.** Veteran pop dance band. **Feb. 21 & 22: Slice.** See above. **Feb. 23: Sun Messengers.** Popular, versatile 10-piece ensemble from Detroit that plays everything from Latin and African dance music to blues and rock. **Feb. 24: 50 Amp Fuse.** Popular Detroit 70s and 80s classic rock band.

The Last Word

301 W. Huron 585-5691

This downtown cocktail bar features live music, Thurs. 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: The Pherotones.** A wide range of jazz and jazzed-up popular music, from the 1920s to the present, by this all-star local quartet. With trumpeter Ross Huff, pianist Giancarlo Aversa, bassist Brennan Andes, and drummer Wes Fritzemeier.

LIVE

102 S. First St. 623-1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour (late Aug.-early June), 6:30-9 p.m., and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat. 10 p.m.-2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. 6:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 1: Andy Adamson Quintet.** Jazz originals by keyboardist Adamson in styles ranging from traditional to modern electric jazz, along with some free improvisation. With saxophonist Dan Bennett, acoustic and electric bassist Brennan Andes, trumpeter Ross Huff, and drummer John Taylor. The band has a new CD, *First Light*. 6:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 2: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Yardbirds, the Byrds, and Dylan to the Foundations' 1968 hit "Build Me Up Buttercup" and priceless obscurities like Love's "Alone Again Or." 6:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 9: Mike Smith & the Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band, led by singer-guitarist Smith, whose repertoire includes classic country, western swing, and boogie-woogie. **Feb. 16: The Invasion** British Invasion cover quartet from Redford led by singer-guitarist David Roof. 6:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 23: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist Tyler Stipe, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30-9 p.m.

Mash

211 E. Washington

222-4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Wed. 9 p.m.-midnight and Thurs.-Sat. & occasional other nights, 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Weekend happy hour music, 6-9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **February 1: Barelyon.** Soulful pop-rock by this Detroit duo. **February 2: Steve Nardella Rock 'n' Roll Trio.** Ann Arbor's most passionate and compelling roots-rocker performs fiercely cathartic, blues-drenched reworkings of rock 'n' roll and rockabilly classics and obscure gems, along with some authentic Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker blues. **February 2: Darwin Mamassian.** Brighton folk singer-songwriter 6-9 p.m. **February 3: Chris Canas Band.** Detroit blues band fronted by blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **February 3: Matt Boylan.** Covers and originals by this local pop-folk singer-guitarist. 6-9 p.m. **February 7: Rick Straub.** Acoustic covers of singer-songwriter pop-folk and folk-rock by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6-9 p.m. **February 8: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May. **February 9: Jason Dean.** Local singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **February 9: Rock Jones.** Local quintet that plays Detroit rock 'n' soul. **February 10: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** An intense fusion of funk, soul, and blues by this Detroit quintet fronted by vocalist Rain. **February 10: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6-9 p.m. **February 14: Adam Labeaux.** An eclectic mix of jazz, folk, soul, funk, and rock originals by this local singer-songwriter, a former Ragbirds guitarist. **February 15: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** See above. **February 16: Mia Green.** Young Detroit-area pop-folk singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **February 16: The Teraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. **February 17: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **February 17: Dan Orcutt.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **February 21: Reeds 'n' Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and guitarist David Roof. **February 22: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. **February 23: Nadim Azzam.** See Avalon. 6-9 p.m. **February 23: Detroit's Own Soul Purpose.** An eclectic mix of genres from funk and blues-rock to hard country by this Westland quintet fronted by vocalist Carol Holmes. **February 24: Mike Vial.** Local folk-rock singer-songwriter. 6-9 p.m. **February 24: The Invasion.** See Live. **February 28: David Roof.** Local blues-rock singer-guitarist.

The Necto

516 E. Liberty

994-5436

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 4 nights a week, Mon. & Thurs.-Sat., 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing. Advance tickets (when available) are at necto.com/special-events. February schedule TBA.

Old Town

122 W. Liberty

662-9291

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun., Wed., & occasional other nights, 8-10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **Feb. 4: No music.** **Feb. 7: Jesse Kramer Trio.** Jazz trio led by drummer Kramer. With saxophonist Bobby Streng and bassist Damon Warmack. **Feb. 11: Raiston Bowles.** Acclaimed Grand Rapids singer-songwriter whose songs are known for their nervy, biting wit. "Raiston Bowles's music is a puckish satire on the mores of contemporary society—a droll spoof aimed at the head and the heart," says WYCE-FM (Grand Rapids) station manager Michael Packer. "He's the Cheshire Cat of the folksters, slyly romping in an unpredictable wonderland." **Feb. 14: Sonic Perfume.** Versatile, adventurous modern jazz by this quartet of musicians from Michigan and Toronto, including local drummer Jonathan Taylor. With saxophonist Patrick Booth, guitarist Patrick O'Reilly, and bassist Phil Albert. **Feb. 18: John Latini.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this popular veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter. His new CD, *The Blues Just Makes Me Feel Good*, is a collection of soul-infused R&B songs. **Feb. 21: Treetown Swingtette.** Local ensemble that plays a wide range of swing music, from Cole Porter to Django Reinhardt. Members are fiddler Paul Winder, vibes player Cary Kocher, bassist Paul Keller, and singer-guitarist Myron Grant, who also plays harmonica. **Feb. 25: The Sidemen.** Versatile local all-star quartet of bassist John Sperendi, guitarists Dave Keeney and Jim Latini, and dobro player Tony Pace. **Feb. 28: Tim Haldeman**

Trio. Blues- and bebop-based jazz in a variety of styles and forms by this local ensemble led by saxophonist Haldeman.

Oz's Music Environment

1920 Packard

662-8283

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music 1st & 4th Tues. and every Thurs. 7:30-9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **Every Thurs.: "Guitarist Network."** All guitarists invited for a weekly jam session and group lesson that concludes with a group performance. 7:30-9 p.m. **Feb. 6: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **Feb. 27: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club

207 S. Main

214-0400

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8-11 p.m., Mon. 9 p.m.-midnight, & Tues. 6-8 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences. **Every Mon.: Bickley/Kramer/Roe.** Mainstream jazz by the local trio of bassist Rob Bickley, drummer Jesse Kramer, and keyboardist Rick Roe. **Every Tues.: Chris Buhalis.** Popular local singer-songwriter who sings engaging, fresh-minded folk-country originals, often with an acerbic topical edge, in a rich, warm voice. His latest CD, *Big Car Town*, is a collection of songs exploring and celebrating his working-class heritage.

Silvio's Organic Pizza

715 North University

214-6666

This campus-area restaurant features live music Sun. 6-8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 7-9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Also, dancing to DJs with swing music (Wed. 10 p.m.-midnight) and tango music (Fri. 10 p.m.-midnight). No cover, dancing. **Feb. 2: TBA.** **Feb. 3: K Michael Joseph.** Local singer-songwriter whose music is an acoustic blend of electropop, NUJazz, ambient music. Also, an eclectic mix of covers. **Feb. 9: Tim Prosser.** A mix of folk and pop covers and originals by this local singer-mandolinist, who is joined by guest musicians TBA. **Feb. 10: Jim Smith.** Local country-folk singer-songwriter whose influences include Gordon Lightfoot and James Taylor. **Feb. 16 & 17: Paul Rhodes.** Acoustic jazz and classic rock by this local pianist. **Feb. 23: The Randaliers.** A diverse mix of familiar and lesser-known rock, blues, alt-country and R&B covers by this local trio of chanteuse Vicki Dischler and guitarists C. Russell and Phil Campbell. **Feb. 24: TBA.**

Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea

123 W. Washington

769-2331

This downtown coffee shop features live music 1st & 3rd Fri., 8:30-9:15 p.m. Followed 9:30-11 p.m. by an **open mike** for musicians. All songs must be family-friendly originals. No cover, no dancing. **Feb. 2: Simon Mermelstein.** Performance by this widely published local poet, a 2-time Pushcart Prize nominee whose work is marked by a self-deprecating sense of humor that is by turns intellectual and playful. **Feb. 16: TBA.**

Tap Room

201 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti

482-5320

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. and occasional Fri. & Sat. 8 p.m.-midnight. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales**, a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Bickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **Feb. 10 & 24: Boylesque.** Drag show.

Zal Gaz Grotto

2070 W. Stadium

663-1202

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sat. 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m., Sun. 5-8 p.m., Mon. 7-10 p.m., Tues. 5:30-8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger.

February Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release.

- By email: events@aaobserver.com
- By phone: 769-3175
- By mail: Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- By fax: 769-3375
- After-hours drop box: left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to AnnArborObserver.com).

★ Denotes a free event.

[annarborobserver.com](#):

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at [AnnArborObserver.com](#). If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on [annarborobserver.com](#).

arbormail:

Get a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at [AnnArborObserver.com/arbormail_help.html](#).

Tickets for events highlighted in yellow are available at [a2tix.com](#).

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

1 THURSDAY

★Winter Democratic Rides: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Mon.-Sun., Dec.-Mar. The assembled riders choose their own pace, distance, and destination. Note: Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. 10 a.m. (Mon.-Fri.), meet at Bird Hills Park parking lot, 1900 Newport Rd.; 10 a.m. (Sun.) & 1 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 545-0541 (for all except 1 p.m. rides), 994-5908 (1 p.m. rides).

★Gifts of Art Concert Series: U-M Hospitals. Every Thurs. Performances by area musicians. Feb. 1: Detroit blues and gospel singer-guitarist Rev. Robert Jones. Feb. 8: The Grosse Ile Quartet performs romantic works by everyone from the Beatles to Bach. Feb. 15: Folk and Americana singer-songwriters Jen Sygit and Sam Corbin. Feb. 22: Works TBA by U-M music majors. 12:10-1 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936-ARTS.

★Older Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center. Every Thurs. A current events discussion group led by Heather Dombe. 1-3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971-0990.

★U-M Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies. Feb. 1 & 15. Talks by visiting scholars. Feb. 1: Columbia University Japanese history professor Gregory Pflugfelder on "Private Parts & Public Concerns: Erecting the Modern Japanese Penis." Feb. 15: Carnegie Mellon University history professor Edda Fields-Black on "Harriet Tubman, the Combahee River Raid, and Transformation in Gullah Geechee Identity." 4 p.m., 1014 Tisch Hall, 435 S. State. Free. 615-7400.

★"Finding Delight, Desire, and Dread in the Brain": U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. U-M neuroscience professor Kent Berridge discusses how the brain's pleasure systems can go awry in episodes of addiction or mental illness.



PTD Productions performs Ayad Akhtar's *Disgraced* Feb. 22-24, 25, & 28 and Mar. 1-3.

FILMS

60 Film Screenings

John Hinckley & Katie Whitney

NEW!

KIDS 12 & UNDER

66 Events for Children

Megan Inbody

GALLERIES

64 Exhibit Openings

Megan Inbody

EVENTS REVIEWS

53 Cue This

Improvising a play

Patrick Dunn

55 Ian Bostridge

On Shubert's Winter Journey

arwulf arwulf

57 Saxophonist Harry Allen

Swinging stylings

Piotr Michalowski

59 Joshua Bell

The sound of sunlight

Sandor Slomovits

65 Thisbe Nissen

Story within the story

Keith Taylor

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

48 Nightspots

Wire in the Wood

John Hinckley & Katie Whitney

James M. Manheim

Reception follows. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764-6330.

★U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series. Feb. 1, 8, & 15. Talks by visiting artists. Feb. 1: Jamaican artist Ebony Patterson discusses her work that explores the use of feminine adornment in the construction of urban masculinity. Feb. 8: New York designer Stephen Burks discusses his interest in bridging the gaps between developing-world production, industrial manufacturing, and contemporary design. Feb. 15: Spanish artist and designer Jaime Hayon discusses his work that blurs the lines between art, decoration, and design. 5:10 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free. 668-8463.

★Robin Coste Lewis & Elif Batuman: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Readings by L.A. poet laureate Lewis, author of the National Book Award-winning *Voyage of the Sable Venus*, and New York City novelist Batuman, a staff writer at *The New Yorker*. "[Lewis's] verse reaches through racism and history," says the *LA Times*. "The best of it startles and amazes with vivid, sly and subtle turns of phrase that conjure demons still not extinguished." Batuman's 2017 novel, *The Idiot*, is a comic debut set in 1995 about a Harvard student whose email relationship with a Hungarian math student leads her on a journey of self-discovery. Signing. 5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

★"Electronics Lab": Ann Arbor District Library. Feb. 1 & 15. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to do a computing activity TBA. Bring a flash drive if you want to save any code created during the event. 6:30-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-8301.

★Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society. Screening of a DVD on Kentucky agate. Followed by discussion and display of club members' agates. 7 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665-5574.

★"Inexact Observations": U-M School of Music/UMMA. U-M piano professor Logan Skelton is joined by faculty and student musicians in classical renderings of folk music by composers such as Bartok, Liszt, and Brahms. Also, discussion of compositional voice. 7 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3204.

★"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. Every Thurs.-Sun. This professional theater company performs Floyd Mutru & Colin Escott's 2010 Tony-nominated Broadway musical recreation of the legendary December 4, 1956 Sun Records recording session with Elvis, Johnny Cash, Carl Perkins, and Jerry Lee Lewis. 7 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.). Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets \$31 (seniors, \$29; youth & groups of 10 or more, \$27) on Thurs.; \$35 (seniors, \$33; youth & groups of 10 or more, \$31) on Fri. & Sat. eve.; \$33 (seniors, \$31; youth & groups of 10 or more, \$29) for all matinees in advance at [theencoretheatre.org](#) and at the door. \$15 student rush tickets (if available) an hour before showtime. 268-6200.

★Comhaltas. Every Thurs. All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. 7:30-9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. [facebook.com/DetroitIMA](#)

★Faculty Showcase: U-M School of Music. Feb. 1 & 8 (different programs). A mini-collage concert with performances by U-M music professors. Tonight: saxophonist Andrew Bishop, trombonist David Jackson, percussionist Jonathan Ovalle, hornist Adam Unsworth, tenor George Shirley, soprano Louise Toppin, bass-baritone Stephen West, and pianists Timothy Cheek, Melissa Coppola, Arthur Greene, Lydia Qui, and Ellen Rowe. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

★"Dancing Globally": U-M Dance Company. Feb. 1-4. U-M dance students perform works by guest and faculty choreographers. Excerpts of 3 works by Tel Aviv-based Batsheva Dance Company artistic director Ohad Naharin—*Kyr* (1990), *Mabul* (1992), and *Decadance* (2014)—showcase Gaga, a movement style that emphasizes delicate gestures and clarity of form. Acclaimed NYC-based choreographer Shannon Gillen, known for works combining an almost daredevil physicality with raw emotionality, debuts an untitled work commissioned for this show. U-M dance professor Sandra Torijano performs a work inspired by Costa Rican novelist José León Sánchez's bestselling *The Island of Lonely Men*, and fellow U-M dance professor Missy Beck debuts a piece

FEBRUARY HIGHLIGHTS

ANN ARBOR DISTRICT LIBRARY

AADL.ORG

FEB 1 FILM AND DISCUSSION SCREENAGERS

THURSDAY • 6:30-9:00 PM

Screenagers examines the influence of tech time on kids' development and offers solutions for balance in the digital world. This screening is in partnership with AAPS and the Forsythe Middle School PTSO. 1655 NEWPORT RD, ANN ARBOR • GRADE 6-ADULT

FEB 2 IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD IDEA AT THE TIME: A CONVERSATION WITH PAUL MAVRIDES

FRIDAY • 12:00-1:00 PM

Artist Paul Mavrides discusses his peripatetic comics and artworks, exploring the cultural oddities and fiascos of contemporary society. This program is in partnership with the University of Michigan Stamps School of Art and Design.

FEB 3 CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

SATURDAY • 2:00-3:30 PM

Celebrate Chinese New Year at AADL with folk dance performances, fun crafts, and a traditional Chinese treat. This program is in partnership with the Ann-Hua School in Ann Arbor. DTN LOBBY • ALL AGES

FEB 6 HOMEGOING: A CONVERSATION WITH YAA GYASI | WASHTENAW READS 2018 AUTHOR EVENT

TUESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

2018 INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES

JILL S. HARRIS MEMORIAL LECTURE

Author Yaa Gyasi discusses her book, *Homegoing* (2016). This event is part of the 2018 Washtenaw Read, and is a partnership with The Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan. RACKHAM AUDITORIUM, 915 E WASHINGTON ST • GRADE 9-ADULT

SUSTAINABLE HOUSING DIY

TUESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

This workshop will introduce the U-M Living Building Challenge Team's work and current sustainable housing solutions. Create your own DIY sustainable retrofit and leave with information about further solutions to retrofit a home. DTN SECRET LAB

FEB 7 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS PANEL

DISCUSSION: A CARBON "PRICE IS RIGHT": HARNESSING THE MARKET TO DRIVE DOWN CARBON EMISSIONS

WEDNESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Panelists will explore challenges and opportunities of "carbon fee and dividend" and "cap and trade" policies. This event is a partnership with League of Women Voters, UM School for Environment and Sustainability, UM Energy Institute, and Citizens' Climate Lobby.

JANE AUSTEN LIVE

THURSDAY • 7:00-9:00 PM

If you love all things Austen, this event is for you. Participate in Austen-themed games, answer trivia questions, and win prizes! This event is a partnership with the University of Michigan Life and Times of Lizzy Bennet Exhibit. LIVE, 102 S. FIRST ST

MEASURING AND TRACKING SUSTAINABILITY | CITY OF ANN ARBOR 2018 SUSTAINABLE ANN ARBOR FORUM

THURSDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Experts from Ann Arbor government, industry, and U of M will examine current ways to measure and track the success of sustainability programs. This event is cosponsored by the City of Ann Arbor.

FEB 12 BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT: A TRIBUTE TO ELLA FITZGERALD

MONDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Sheila Landis, Detroit Music Awards seven-time winner of "Outstanding Jazz Vocalist," Rick Matle, Kurt Krahne and Pete Siers perform at the Downtown Library in celebration of The First Lady of Song—Ella Fitzgerald.

FEB 13 FILM SCREENING FIRE AT SEA

TUESDAY • 6:30-8:30 PM

A nominee for Best Documentary Feature, *Fire at Sea* jolts the audience into a new understanding of the migrant crisis, and the price of freedom. This 2016 108-minute film is not rated. PITTSFIELD

FEB 14 CHOCOLATE & VALENTINES WITH KEEGAN RODGERS

WEDNESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Keegan C. Rodgers, Head Baker at the People's Food Co-Op, leads this lively talk about all things chocolate! This event is in partnership with the People's Food Co-Op and is part of an ongoing baking series. GRADE 6-ADULT

FEB 17 BLACK HISTORY MONTH CONCERT: GRATITUDE STEEL BAND

SATURDAY • 2:00-3:00 PM

Join us for a tribute concert of African, jazz, classical, calypso, reggae, and 80's music to display the presence of joyful contributions from the African American Experience! ALL AGES

FEB 18 FILM SCREENING SUZY LAKE: PLAYING WITH TIME

SUNDAY • 2:00-3:30 PM

Join us for a documentary film on photographer Suzy Lake, one of the seminal feminist artists to evolve out of the 1960's. This program is in partnership with the University of Michigan Stamps School of Art and Design.

FEB 21 SMALL APPETITES: A HISTORY OF CHILDREN'S FOOD

SUNDAY • 3:00-5:00 PM

Helen Zoe Veit, Associate Professor of History at Michigan State University, examines children's eating practices and the intersection of biology, culture, and science. This event is in partnership with the Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor. MALLETTS CREEK

FEB 25 SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE BUSINESSES: HOW TEA, ICE CREAM, AND VEGETABLES DO GOOD

WEDNESDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Local business owners discuss socially conscious business practices and how these relate to their identity and bottom line.

FEB 26 GETTING BELOW THE SURFACE: RACE, ETHNICITY, AND IDENTITY IN YOUTH

MONDAY • 7:00-8:30 PM

Dr. Deborah Rivas-Drake examines how adolescents navigate issues of race and ethnicity in peer and family settings. This program is part of the "Exploring the Mind" series and is a partnership with The University of Michigan Department of Psychology.

that plays with the idea of coordinated movements between individual animals when moving in large groups, as with a murmuration of swallows. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Power Center. Tickets \$30 & \$24 (students, \$12) in advance at the Michigan League and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"(I Could Go on Singing) Over the Rainbow": University Musical Society. Jan. 26-Feb. 3. Glasgow-based performance artist FK Alexander sings along with a distorted recording of Judy Garland's last performance of her iconic song, over and over again for 65 minutes, singing directly to volunteers from the audience. With the Glasgow-based noise band Okishima Island Tourist Association. The *Guardian* (UK) calls it "desperate, moving, distressing, and beautiful too." Sustained loud noise and strobe effects. Ear plugs provided. Cushion seating on floor; chairs available. 7:30 p.m. (except Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.), U-M Stamps Gallery, 201 S. Division. Tickets \$30 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"They, Themself, and Scherm": University Musical Society. Jan. 31-Feb. 3. This one-person stand-up show by NYC-based transgender actor/activist Becca Blackwell—who uses the personal pronouns they/them—is an alternately disturbing and funny tale of Blackwell's struggles with their religious Midwestern family, abuse, and gender identity. 7:30 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.) & 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), U-M Walgreen Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin. Tickets \$30 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

U-M Women's Basketball vs. Purdue. The U-M also has games this month against Northwestern (Feb. 8, 7 p.m.) and Maryland (Feb. 22, 6 p.m.). 8 p.m., Crisler Center. \$6 & \$8 (groups of 10 or more, \$3 each). 764-0247.

"Beau Monde: An Anthology in Black Movement": PURe Dance Ensemble. Feb. 1-3. Gina Danene Thompson directs this local dance company of more than 40 members in her new choreography that draws on influences such as Katherine Dunham and Martha Graham and blends modern, break dancing, jazz, jive, ballet, hip-hop, and Congolese dance. 8 p.m. (Feb. 1-3) & 2:30 p.m. (Feb. 2 & 3), Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (kids age 12 & under, \$8) in advance at a2tix.com/events/beau-monde-an-anthology-in-black-movement. (313) 828-0945

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. Every Thurs.-Sun. Jan. 26-Feb. 18. Carla Milarch directs Megan VanArsdale and Forrest Hejkal in this critically-acclaimed 2-actor play by British playwright Nick Payne. Inspired by the notion from string theory that phenomena manifest themselves according to shifting tensions in their components, it depicts the different possible romantic trajectories between a Cambridge University astrophysicist and a beekeeper. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. Tickets (if available) are \$20 or pay what you can, in advance at theatrenova.org and at the door. Members (\$75 annual donation) receive priority access to all shows. 635-8450.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. Every Wed.-Sun., Jan. 18-Mar. 10. Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of Purple Rose founder Jeff Daniels' heartfelt drama about 2 Flint couples struggling to hold onto their faith in the American Dream while they endure the diminished prospects of their once prosperous city. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed., Sat., & Feb. 2 & 23), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets \$30 (Wed.), \$27 (Thurs.), \$41 (Fri. eve. & weekend matinees), \$46 (Sat. eve.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org and by phone, and (if available) at the door. Discounts available for students, seniors, teachers, military personnel, and groups. 433-7673.

Nore Davis: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 1-3. This fast-rising young African American comic is known for his fresh, edgy observational humor addressing family, racial, and political themes. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$11 (Thurs.) & \$14 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$13 (Thurs.) & \$16 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

2 FRIDAY

★"It Seemed Like a Good Idea at the Time": Ann Arbor District Library. San Francisco-based comics artist Paul Mavrides discusses his work. Noon-1 p.m., AADL Downtown Multipurpose rm. Free. 327-8301.

★Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. Every Mon. & Fri. All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. 12:30-4:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

★"Ice Carving Extravaganza": Main Street Area Association. Feb. 2-4. Members of the U-M ice

EVENTS TAKE PLACE IN THE DOWNTOWN LIBRARY
MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE.

FOR INFORMATION ON THESE EVENTS AND MORE, PLEASE VISIT AADL.ORG

theater



Cue This

Improvising a play

There's a certain pleasure to writing a theater review in which spoiling plot details is no concern because the audience will never see the same show twice. That's true of any show at Pointless Brewery & Theatre, but the improv venue's new show, *Cue This*, takes the concept to the next level. While typical shows at Pointless and other improv venues mix short improv games with some longer scenes, the performers in *Cue This* improvise an entire forty-five-minute play before your eyes.

At the beginning of *Cue This*, an audience volunteer spins a game show-style wheel to choose the genre for the evening. Buddy comedy, romantic comedy, and film noir are among the genres in play. Audience members then help to randomly determine light and sound cues, which are listed on a sheet distributed to them but unknown to the performers.

And then the fun begins as the seven players take the stage to introduce their characters. On opening night, the genre was film noir, and the cast of improvised characters proved entertaining and dynamic from moment one. Allyson Miko, Katie Parzych, and Corene Ford drew immediate laughs by introducing themselves respectively as Vera Vierson, a thickly accented Russian spy; the twitchy Benny the Snitch; and Sharon, an oversexed "bad girl."

An enjoyably ludicrous crime drama ensued, concerning the efforts of the town police chief (Matt Swartz) to determine the

source of a black-market drug known as "jazz cigarettes," available in both black and brown varieties. (Initially a mystery, the narcotic was revealed to be plain old marijuana halfway through the show.)

The players, some of them members of Pointless's resident cast of improvisers, displayed impressive dedication to long-form, collaborative comic storytelling. Even the most unfortunate flubs turned into hilarious running jokes, as when the police chief belled, regarding the jazz cigarettes, "The blacks, the browns—I want 'em all out of my town!" Swartz turned beet red as soon as the words left his mouth, the audience howled (and groaned), and Swartz's character became a not-so-subtle racist for the rest of the show.

Although the process of selecting and then keeping track of the performance's lighting and sound cues proved a bit confusing for the audience on opening night, stage manager Peter Felsman made delightful use of the effects. The cast interpreted a "roaring monster" sound effect as a lion, introducing the invisible beast first to intimidate certain characters before it was unleashed to wreak havoc in the final scene.

Thanks to the professionalism and creativity of the cast and minimal crew, *Cue This* is a riotously funny show with a uniquely addictive side effect. Having seen their take on film noir, it's hard not to want to return to see the cast tackle romantic comedy—or whatever else gets cued up for the next show.

Cue This runs every Friday through February 9.

—Patrick Dunn

carving team chip huge blocks of ice on the sidewalks into twinkling sculptures, which remain on display as long as the weather holds. 3–7 p.m. (Fri.), 10 a.m.–5 p.m. (Sat.), & 10 a.m.–2 p.m. (Sun.), downtown. Free. mainstreetannarbor.org

★**U-M Germanic Languages & Literatures Winter Colloquium.** Series of lectures by German scholars and writers. Feb. 2: MSU German professor Matthew Handelman discusses the work of **Gershom Scholem**, whose scholarship on Jewish mysticism had a vital impact on 20th century Zionism. Feb. 16: Dartmouth College German professor Petra McGillicuddy discusses 19th-century German realist novelist & poet **Theodor Fontane**. Feb. 22: Reading from her work (in German) by **Theodora Bauer**, a fiction writer and essayist whose recent novel, *Chikago*, traces the lives of 3 protagonists fleeing post-WWI poverty in Austria. 2 p.m. (Feb. 2 & 16) & 4:30 p.m. (Feb. 22), Room 3308 Modern Languages Building, 812 E. Washington. Free. 764–8018.

★**"Refutation": U-M Philosophy Department.** University of Chicago philosophy professor Agnes Callard discusses the nature and uses of this basic philosophical practice. 3–5 p.m., Tanner Library, Angell Hall. Free. 764–6285.

★**U-M Center for South Asian Studies Lecture Series.** Feb. 2 & 16. Talks by visiting scholars. Feb. 2: "Atmospheric Citizenship: Distributions of Life in the Wake of Delhi's Airpocalypse." Feb. 9:

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine rituals and challah. Children welcome. 6:30–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$10 (family, \$25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975–9872.

★**"Lantern-Lit Ski & Snowshoe": Waterloo Recreation Area.** Every Fri. except Feb. 9. All invited to walk or (conditions permitting) ski or snowshoe half-mile lantern-lit loops. Fire available to warm up between laps. A few pairs of snowshoes available to borrow. 7–9 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, 17030 Bush Rd. Chelsea. Free. \$16 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. 7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. \$5 requested donation. 663–2037.

★**"Across the Waves": Literati Bookstore.** U-M communication studies professor Derek Vaillant discusses his new book about U.S.-France radio broadcasting from 1931–1974. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.

★**Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department.** Readings by 2 U-M creative writing grad students, fiction writers Graham Cotten and Wickham Richmond. 7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.

★**"The Trojan Women": EMU Theatre Department.** Feb. 2–4 & 8–11. EMU theater professor Jennifer Graham directs EMU drama students in Ellen McLaughlin's contemporary adaptation of Euripides' ancient antiwar tragedy highlighting the cost of war on women. "McLaughlin's linguistically fluid, poetical howl of anguish succeeds largely because—at just under an hour—it's so tightly wound," notes a *Variety* review. 7 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), EMU Sponberg Theatre, Ford St. (off Lowell from Huron River Dr.), Ypsilanti. Tickets \$15 (seniors & students, \$12) in advance and at the door. 487–2282.

Mike Birbiglia: Live Nation. Popular, critically acclaimed New York-based comic, a gifted storyteller who specializes in often painfully awkward autobiographical tales that he mines for their absurdist potencies and relates with an understated tall-tale drollery. He first gained attention for stories about a sleep disorder he has that gets him into hilarious—sometimes dangerous—situations. His current show, "Thank God for Jokes," is an anthology of stories exploring the way jokes can get you into trouble. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$37.50 at michtheater.com & ticketmaster.com. 800–745–3000.

★**"Reggae Night": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation Funky Frosty Friday.** All invited to skate to reggae beats. 7:15–8:45 p.m., Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. \$6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$5). \$1 discount for city residents. Skate rentals available (\$3). 794–6234.

U-M Ice Hockey vs. Wisconsin. Feb. 2 & 3. The U-M also has home games this month against Notre Dame (Feb. 18, 5:30 p.m.) and Arizona State (Feb. 23, 7:30 p.m. & Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m.). 7:30 p.m. (Feb. 2 & 3), Yost Ice Arena, 1016 S. State. Ticket price \$30 & up at stubhub.com/michigan-wolverines-hockey-tickets. 764–0247.

★**"Kiss Me, Kate": Burns Park Players.** Feb. 2, 3, 9, & 10. Burns Park Elementary School students, parents, and friends perform Cole Porter's witty musical comedy about two bickering exes who play the warring lovers Kate and Petruchio in Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. The score features such well-known songs as "Another Op'nin', Another Show," "Too Darn Hot," and the saucy "Always True to You in My Fashion." 7:30 p.m. (Feb. 2, 3, & 9) & 4 p.m. (Feb. 10), Tappan Middle School, 2251 E. Stadium. Tickets \$15 (patron seats, \$30) in advance at showix4u.com and (if available) at the door. burnsparkplayers.org

★**"Game Night for Aruna 5K": Common Cup.** All invited to play games. Prizes. Also, a chance to register for the Mar. 31 Aruna 5-km race that raises money for the fight against sex trafficking. 8 p.m., Common Cup, 1511 Washtenaw. Free admission. 327–6914.

★**"Time and Place": U-M Symphony Band.** Michael Haithcock and Elliott Tackitt conduct this ensemble of music majors in Strauss's Suite in B, contemporary Thai composer Narong Prangcharoen's *Chakra*, Revuelta's *Sensymaya*, U-M performing arts technology lecturer Paul Dooley's *Coast of Dreams* with trumpeter Bill Campbell, local Pulitzer Prize-winning composer William Bolcom's "Song for Band," and Ives' "Country Band March." Preceded at 7:15 p.m. in the lower lobby by a discussion of the program with Dooley, Haithcock, and members of the band. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.

★**"Hygge": Ann Arbor District Library.** Feb. 2 & 23. All invited to cozy up to a virtual fireplace with warm drinks & sweet treats, and mellow music, and work on a knitting or crocheting project with local crafter Beth Battey, play Scrabble, or quietly read. 6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.

Sweet Sale

Saturday, Feb. 10 - 10 to 4
Sunday, Feb. 11 - 1 to 4

Come to our first Bag Sale of the year!
Small bags \$4, large bags \$5,
extremely large bags (IKEA) \$10.
Bring your own bags or take some of ours!

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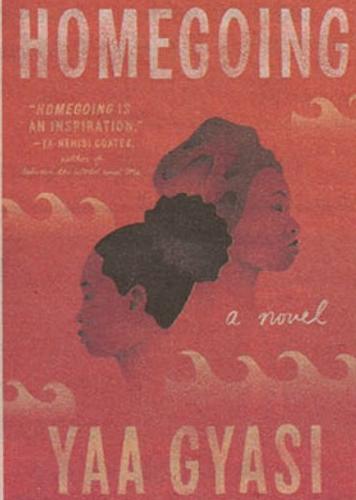
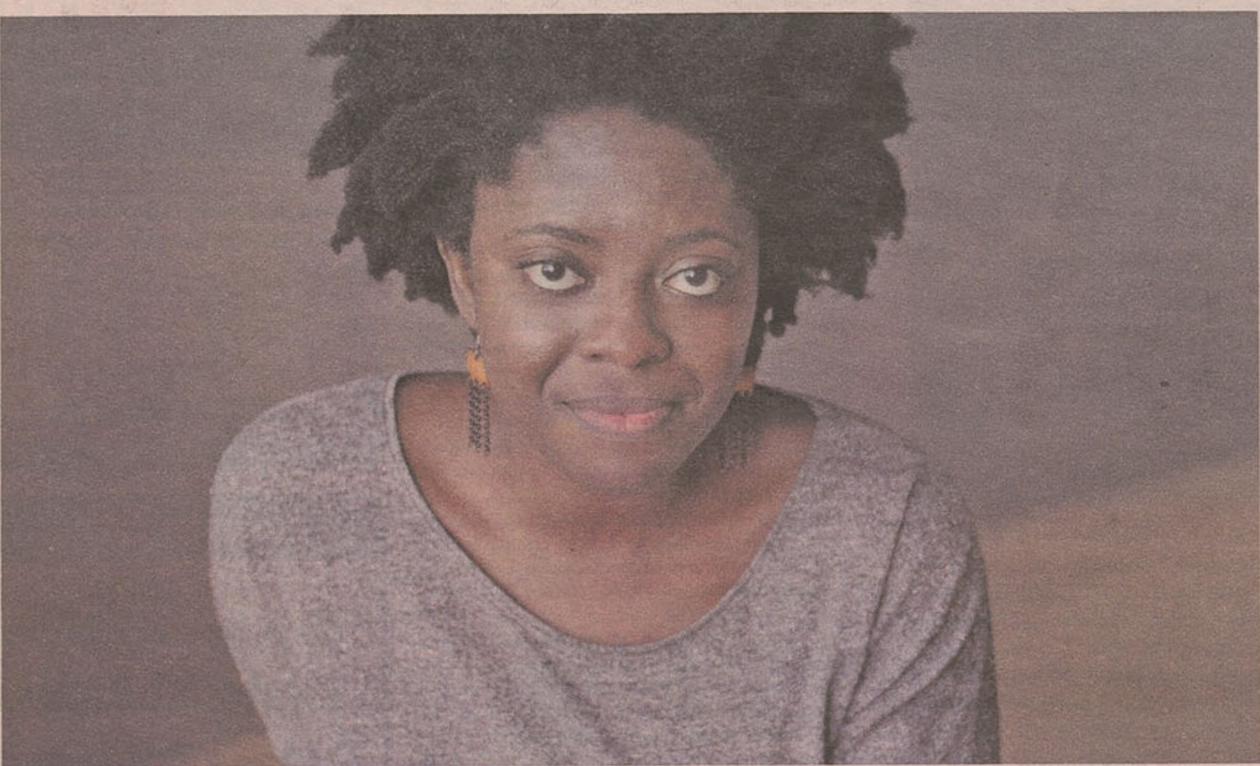
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ONE BOOK MANY CONVERSATIONS



HOMEGOING

A Conversation with Yaa Gyasi

The Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan will host a conversation with Yaa Gyasi, author of *Homegoing* (2016), the 2018 selection for Washtenaw Reads. *Homegoing* tells the stories of two West African half-sisters and their descendants. One sister, Esi, is captured and brought to the Americas as a slave; the other sister, Effia, stays in Africa and marries a British slaver. Over the course of seven generations, Gyasi illuminates the legacies of slavery and the wide spectrum of colonial African and African-American experiences.

Yaa Gyasi was born in Ghana and came to the United States as a child. She is a graduate of Stanford and received her Master of Fine Arts from the Iowa Writers Workshop. In 2016, she was chosen for the National Book Foundation's "5 under 35" award. *Homegoing*, her debut novel, has been nominated for the several awards and won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award in 2017.

M LSA INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

The Jill S. Harris Memorial Endowment was established in 1985 in memory of Jill Harris. Established by Roger and Meredith Harris, Jill's parents, her grandparents Allan and Norma Harris, and friends, the fund brings a distinguished visitor to campus each year who will appeal to undergraduate students interested in the humanities and the arts.

The event includes a book signing and books will be available for sale.

Tuesday, February 6
7–8:30pm
Rackham Auditorium
915 E. WASHINGTON STREET | ANN ARBOR



WASHTENAW reads

Washtenaw Reads is a community initiative to promote reading and civic dialogue through the shared experience of reading and discussing a common book. Participating libraries include Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Dexter, Milan, Northfield Township, Saline, and Ypsilanti.

WREAD.ORG

studies he composed after criss-crossing America in the aftermath of the 2016 presidential election on a 2-week, 8,980-mile "listening tour," talking to fellow travelers in Amtrak dining cars. The results "drift between stand-alone pop tunes and music-theater exposition," says a *New York Times* review. 8 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Tickets \$30-\$45 in advance at [ums.org](#), by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"Wine, Women, and Song XVI": Kerrytown Concert House. Jan. 26-28 and Feb. 2 & 3. Monica Swartout-Bebow directs an elegant evening of jazz, classical, and cabaret songs showcasing noted local women singers, including Laurie Atwood, Linda Beaupre, Sue Booth, Roxy Diederich, Shelley MacMillan, Deanna Relyea, Swartout-Bebow, Lisa Tucker-Gray, and Kathy Waugh. With pianist Tyler Driskill. Wine is served. This popular event usually sells out. 8 p.m. (except Jan. 28, 4 p.m.), KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$20-\$50. Reservations recommended. [Kerrytownconcerthouse.com](#), 769-2999.

"Cue This": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Feb. 2 & 9. See review, p. 53. The League of Pointless Improvisers performs a one-act improvised show guided by the "Genre Wheel" (spun by an audience member) and audience selections for sound and lighting cues. 8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$15 (8 p.m.) & \$12 (10 p.m.) in advance at [pointlessbrew.com](#) & at the door. (989) 455-4484.

"Dancing Globally": U-M Dance Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Beau Monde: An Anthology in Black Movement": PURe Dance Ensemble. See 1 Thursday. 2:30 (sold out) & 8 p.m.

"(I Could Go on Singing) Over the Rainbow": University Musical Society. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"They, Themself, and Scherm": University Musical Society. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Nore Davis: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

3 SATURDAY

"Mid-winter Hike": Hudson Mills Activity Center. Hudson Mills naturalist Mark Irish leads a walk to spot local wildlife, and possibly witness the stonefly mating. 10 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$5. \$10 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

★"Metal Recycling & Making Music": Ecology Center of Ann Arbor. All invited to design a musical instrument with reused and recycled materials. 10 a.m.-noon, AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327-8301.

★"Remote-Controlled Car Racing": Washtenaw RC Raceway. Feb. 3 & 17. Off-road dirt-track racing for stock and modified model electric trucks and buggies. Spectators welcome. Food concessions. 10:15 a.m.-midnight, Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Doors open at 8 a.m. Free admission. \$17 to race. (517) 290-7128.

★"Saturday Morning Physics": U-M Physics Department. Feb. 3, 10, & 17. Popular series of talks, aimed at general audiences, by U-M scholars. Feb. 3: Physics and astronomy professor David Gerdes on "The Great American Eclipse of 2017." Feb. 10: Physics professor Mark Newman on "The Physics of Complex Systems." Feb. 17: Nuclear engineering professor Sara Pozzi on "Detection for Nuclear Nonproliferation." 10:30 a.m., 170 & 182 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764-4437.

★U-M Men's Gymnastics vs. Ohio State. 1 p.m., Cliff Keen Arena, S. State at Hoover. Free. 764-0247.

"Creature Encounters": The Creature Conservancy. Every Sat. & Sun. Conservancy staffers show 2 crested porcupines out of their cage on the conservancy's Stone Stage (2 & 4 p.m.). Also, cougar feedings (1:30 & 4:30 p.m.) and a chance to see the conservancy's other animals, including prairie dogs, kangaroos, giant tortoises, Arctic foxes, and more. 1-5 p.m., Creature Conservancy, 4950 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$8 (kids ages 2-12, \$6; age 1 & under, free). 929-9324.

★Chinese New Year's Celebration: Ann Arbor District Library/Ann-Hua School. A festive party to usher in the Year of the Dog with crafts, playing a Chinese Yaogu drum, a Chinese lion dance, and children's folk dance performances. Traditional treats provided. 2-3 p.m., AADL Downtown lobby. Free. 327-4555.

★"Tropical Earring Organizer": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for grade 6-adult. Materials provided for a tropical-themed organizer. 2-4 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327-8301.

classical

Ian Bostridge

On Schubert's Winter Journey

Following in the footsteps of master-singer Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau, tenor Ian Bostridge has spent much of his life on the endless trek that is Franz Schubert's *Winterreise*; peering into its prisms, internalizing every nuance of the blended words and music—he's called Schubert's song cycle "the first and greatest of all concept albums." On Sunday, February 4, he and pianist Julius Drake will perform the work at Lydia Mendelssohn Theater.

It is unlikely that anyone has ever devoted more time and lifeblood to *Winterreise* than Bostridge or matched his ability and willingness to step away from traditional concert protocol into more radical experimentation with it. In 1997 Bostridge and Drake collaborated with filmmaker David Alden in a haunting adaptation, filmed inside a carefully constructed replica of an abandoned English madhouse. Crouched in a corner, sprawled on the floor, or wandering about, he seemed to be singing while trapped between the pages of a Henry James novel.

In 2012, Bostridge's performance of *Winterreise* was well received at the first International Samuel Beckett Festival in Enniskillen, Northern Ireland. Beckett, it seems, was uncommonly fond of the work as a tuneful exercise in absurdity and existential alienation. In 2016, Bostridge sang in Hans Zender's multimedia chamber ensemble adaptation of the Schubert cycle at London's Barbican Theatre. In light of all this, it seems appropriate that Bostridge, also an accomplished historian and educator, has written a book called *Schubert's Winter Journey: Anatomy of an Obsession*.

Before performing *Winterreise*, Bostridge undergoes an inner transformation as he prepares to plunge once again into the alternate reality of the song cycle that has shaped his entire artistic life. You can see it in his face and body language and hear it in his voice. Audience members, sitting entranced in the darkened theater, may find themselves drift-



ing toward the exits after the performance feeling profoundly altered.

No one should expect to be entertained by Schubert's *Winter Journey*. That's not what it's there for, and not what it's about. I say this as a veteran of avant-garde theater. Federico García Lorca and Antonin Artaud taught me that in the final analysis, art is a matter of life and death. Most really challenging modern art has the power to dispel comfortable illusions, causing audiences to feel vulnerable. And Schubert, as it turns out, was surprisingly modern in his own way.

Bostridge has uncovered a staggering body of historical context for how and why Schubert set these poems by Wilhelm Müller to music, creating the composite work that, he says, comes to us like a message in a bottle set afloat in the cultural ocean of 1828. The singer carries that comprehension with him in the marrow of his bones. It shines from his eyes and shapes the contours of his beautiful voice. This winter journey transpires when poet, composer, musicians, and listeners meet at the crossroads of the performance ritual, as each of the twenty-four songs begins to breathe and resonate like a living being.

—arwulf arwulf

★"East and West: A Recital of Vocal Music with Piano": U-M Confucius Institute. WSU medical researcher Jie Wang, a professionally-trained soprano, and WSU otolaryngology professor Jinsheng Zhang, a professionally-trained tenor, present a program of Chinese and European opera songs. Piano accompaniment by Dizhou Zhao. 7-9 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 764-8888.

"The Trojan Women": EMU Theatre Department. See 2 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Drum and Dance Jam": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle led by percussionist Curtis Glatter. Bring a drum or use one provided. 7:30-9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$5 suggested donation. 480-1219.

"Kiss Me, Kate": Burns Park Players. See 2 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

Milonga: Michigan Argentine Tango Club. Jan. 3 & 17. Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. 8 p.m.-midnight, Michigan Union Anderson Rm. \$10 (members, \$5). umich.edu/~matc

★"Yemanya, Queen of the Sea": Fana Community Arts. Celebration of this Yoruban goddess commemorated in Brazil on Feb. 2. Family craft activities. With performances by local poet-storyteller Jill Halpern, Brazilian/Latin jazz duo Alvorada, and other artists TBA. Attendees encouraged to wear ocean/beach costumes including merpeople, sea creatures, and sailors. Also, audience members can volunteer to participate in a dramatic reading of the Yemanya myth. Party snacks provided. 8 p.m., Gallup Park Clubhouse, 300 Fuller. Free. micdunkn@yahoo.com

Estonian National Symphony Orchestra: University Musical Society. Former Detroit Symphony Orchestra director Neeme Järvi leads this ensemble in its UMS debut in a celebration of Estonian composers. The program includes Brahms' Piano Concerto No. 1 in D Minor with accompaniment by the celebrated pianist (and 1998 UMS Distinguished Artist Award winner) Garrick Ohlsson, and Eduard Tubin's Symphony No. 5 in B Minor, composed in 1946 immediately after the composer's flight to Sweden following the Soviet takeover of Estonia. The program begins with Heino Eller's "Homeland Tune," the unofficial Estonian national anthem. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$14-\$80 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"Wine, Women, and Song XVI": Kerrytown Concert House. See 2 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Beau Monde: An Anthology in Black Movement": PURe Dance Ensemble. See 1 Thursday. 2:30 & 8 p.m.

"Dancing Globally": U-M Dance Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"(I Could Go on Singing) Over the Rainbow": University Musical Society. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"They, Themself, and Schmerm": University Musical Society. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Pointless Improv Shows": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Every Sat. Comedic improv by experienced local performers. 8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$15 (8 p.m.) & \$12 (10 p.m.). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455-4484.

Nore Davis: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

Latin Dance Party: Dance Revolution. Feb. 3 & 17. High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. Preceded by beginner (7 p.m.) and intermediate/advanced (8 p.m.) salsa lessons. 9 p.m.-1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. \$12 (students with ID, \$8). Facebook.com/A2DanceRevolution

4 SUNDAY

"Comparative Cupping": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff offer taste samples of coffees from around the world using the tools and techniques of professional tasters. Noon-2 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$30. Reservations required. 929-6060.

"The Lady of the Camellias": Fathom Events. Broadcast from Moscow of the Bolshoi Ballet production of John Neumeier's ballet, set to a Chopin score, based on Alexandre Dumas' novel about a passionate yet doomed love affair. 12:55 p.m., Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter). Tickets \$17 in advance at fathomevents.com/events and at the door. 827-2863 (Quality 16) & 973-8424 (Ann Arbor 20).

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February 2018
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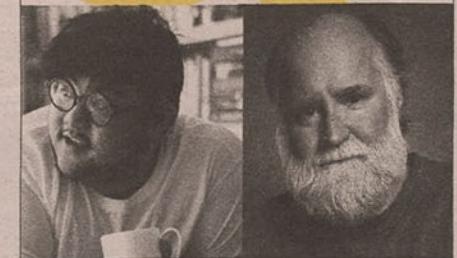
READING & BOOKSIGNING
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530PM UMMA Helmut Stern

FICTION BY

Nicholson Baker

POETRY BY

Hieu Minh Nguyen



READING & BOOKSIGNING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 15TH
530PM UMMA Helmut Stern

All listed ZWWS events are free & open to the public. For more information, see lsa.umich.edu/writers.

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★“Engaging with Art”: UMMA. Every Sun. Docent-led tour of the UMMA collection, with themes based on the docent's interests. 1–2 p.m., UMMA, meet at the Museum Store, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.

U-M Women's Gymnastics vs. Maryland. The U-M also has meets this month against MSU (Feb. 10, 4 p.m.), 2 p.m., Crisler Center. Ticket prices TBA at mgobule.com/tickets/gmw-index.html. 764–0247.

★“Kerry Tales: Humpty Dumpty and Mother Goose”: Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. 2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.

Winter Programs: Waterloo Natural History Association. Feb. 4: Geologist Larry Bean explains how glaciers moved across the state in “Why Does Michigan Look Like a Mitten?” Feb. 11: Wild World Zoo (Jackson) owner Brendan Finerty presents an interactive animal program in “A World of Animals.” Feb. 18: DNR wildlife biologist Kristin Wildman presents “Michigan’s Rattler,” a hands-on introduction to the Massasauga rattlesnake, with tips on what to do if you encounter it in the wild. Feb. 25: “Build Your Own Telescope” with local astronomy buff Meg Gower. Additional \$8 fee for materials. 2–3:30 p.m., Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. \$2 (families, \$5). Space limited; preregistration required. \$11 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.

★“Matisse Drawings: Curated by Ellsworth Kelly from the Pierre and Tana Matisse Foundation Collection”: UMMA. Feb. 4 & 18. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of 45 rarely exhibited works by Matisse, along with 9 lithographic drawings by the American artist Ellsworth Kelly that derive from his time in France studying Matisse's sketches and studies of nature and human figures. 2–3 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.

“Dancing Globally”: U-M Dance Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

“Constellations”: Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

“Flint”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

“The Trojan Women”: EMU Theatre Department. See 2 Friday. 2 p.m.

★“Drawing for Adults”: Ann Arbor District Library. Every Sun. Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a different directed drawing activity each week. 3–5 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting rm. (Feb. 4, 11, & 18); AADL Mallets Creek (Feb. 25). Free. 327–8301.

★“Mediating Disaster”: UMMA. Photography curator Jennifer Friess discusses the current exhibit, *Aftermath: Landscapes of Devastation*. Followed by a presentation on film representations of catastrophe by U-M screen arts and culture professor Daniel Herbert. Q&A. 3 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.

Gemini: Michigan Friends Center Winterfest. The popular Ann Arbor acoustic duo of twin brothers Sandor and Laszlo Slomovits performs original songs and traditional music from around the globe in a benefit for the Friends Center. Preceded at 1 p.m. by family-oriented winter activities. 3 p.m., Michigan Friends Center, 7748 Clarks Lake Rd., Chelsea. Tickets \$10 (family, \$25) in advance and at the door. 475–1892.

“Million Dollar Quartet”: The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

Ian Bostridge: University Musical Society. See review, p. 55. This celebrated English tenor, accompanied by pianist Julius Drake, performs Schubert's *Winterreise* (Winter Journey), a setting of Wilhelm Müller's somber poems about which Bostridge, a former Oxford historian, has also written a 500-page history. “At his most lyrical, Bostridge spins endless streams of sound with a steady, seductive legato,” says a *Bachtrack* reviewer. “He's not afraid to introduce choppiness, emphasized gutturals, and even harsh shouts into his singing for dramatic effect.” 4 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$40–\$55 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538.

“Around the World in 88 Keys”: People Dancing. This accomplished local dance company presents 90 minutes of dances with international influences. Premieres include *Wild Swans*, Ypsilanti choreographer Rebecca Zahn's ensemble piece to music by Uzbek Australian composer Elena Kats-Chernin, and People Dancing artistic director Christina Sears-Etter's tap dance set to Billy Strayhorn's “Take the A Train.” People Dancing company members Apryl Pipe and Holly Matthews present untitled works: Pipe's is set to ragtime, and Matthews' ensemble work uses practitioners of Capoeira, an Afro-Brazilian martial art form. West Michigan Dance Collaborative (Kalamazoo) choreographer Joy Morris performs a solo entitled *Landscape with Bells*. The local duo El Kronox dances to Argentine “nuevo tango” composer Astor Piazzola's

“Oblivion.” The afternoon concludes with the duo leading the audience through some elementary tango moves. 4:30–6 p.m., Stone Chalet, 1917 Washtenaw. Tickets \$15 & \$27 (student rush ticket, \$10, children 10 & under, \$6.50) in advance at 88keystickets.bpt.me and \$20 at the door. 475–7148.

★Ann Arbor Morris. Every Sun. All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish moresca. Wear athletic shoes. 6–8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm or check meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Morris-Dancing. 717–1569.

Euchre Tournament: Fraser's Pub. Every Sun. All invited to play 5 euchre games of 12 hands each. No partner necessary. 6 p.m., Fraser's Pub, 2045 Packard. \$5. sarah.aami@gmail.com

Molly Raynor: Ann Arbor Poetry. Performance by this award-winning local slam poet and community activist, who recently became the Neutral Zone literary arts director. Her poetry is known for its emotional honesty in exploring how past trauma affects present action. Preceded by a poetry open mike. 7 p.m. Espresso Royale, 324 S. State. \$5 suggested donation. facebook.com/AnnArborPoetry

★“Music for Meditation”: St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. Internationally known local keyboardist Naki Sung Kripfgans presents a program of piano works by Mendelssohn, Haydn, and Rameau. 7:15 p.m., St. Andrew's, 306 N. Division. Free. 663–0518.

★“The Arcade: Improv Jam”: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Feb. 4 & 18. All invited to play short-form improv games. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. 7:30 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Free (pay-what-you-can for spectators). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455–4484.

Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. Every Sun. except Feb. 25. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. 8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Rogel Ballroom (Feb. 4 & 11) & Pendleton Rm. (Feb. 18), \$5 (\$10 includes lessons). 763–6984.

5 MONDAY

Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs. All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) & ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. Refreshments. 12:30–4 p.m. (Mon.) & Noon–3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$3 (members, \$2) on Mon., \$7 (members, \$6) on Wed. & Thurs. 794–6250.

★U-M Islamic Studies Program Lectures. Feb. 5: “In His Own Voice,” a talk by University of Maryland history professor Ahmet Karamustafa on the Iranian Safavid Empire (1501–1736) founder Shah Ismail's religious views as reflected in his poetry. Feb. 19: University of Nebraska-Lincoln Arabic language & culture professor Abla Hasan on “The Lost Gender Egalitarian Voice of the Qur'an.” 4–5:30 p.m., 555 Weiser Hall, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.

★“Sewing Lab”: Ann Arbor District Library. Feb. 5 & 19. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to get basic sewing help with their unfinished projects or learn how to use the AADL sewing machines. Basic sewing instruction available. All welcome to bring their own sewing machine. On Feb. 5, Made by Rae owner Rae Hoekstra demonstrates how to read a pattern. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.

★Lifetree Café. Every Mon. All invited to join conversations on various topics led by St. Paul Lutheran Church members. Each discussion begins with a video introduction. Snacks provided. Feb. 5: “Whistleblower: The True Story of an FBI Informant.” Feb. 12: “In the News.” Feb. 19: “Does God Have a Plan for You? One Woman's Quest to Save 300 Babies.” Feb. 26: “Finding the Family I Never Knew: A Story of Separation, Adoption, and Reunion.” 7–8 p.m., 500 W. Liberty. Free. 665–7912.

★“Emerging Writers: High-Concept Ideas”: Ann Arbor District Library. Local short story writer Alex Kourvo and young adult novelist Bethany Neal discuss how to develop an idea that sustains a novel-length plot. For adult and teen (grade 6 & up) fiction and nonfiction writers. Also, Kourvo and Neal host an open house for writers to connect with one another and/or work on their projects at 7 p.m. on Feb. 19. 7–8:45 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.

Joe Biden: Live Nation. Rescheduled from Dec. 13. Sold out. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$69.50–\$195 at michtheater.com & ticketmaster.com. 800–745–3000.

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Every Mon. Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome.

Saxophonist Harry Allen

Swinging stylings

In the early 1940s a small group of young musicians changed the harmonic, melodic, and rhythmic foundations of jazz in a movement that became known as bebop or simply bop. At the same time a small group of tenor saxophonists who had grown up enthralled by the idiosyncratic stylings of Lester Young (known as Pres, for President) resisted the full call of the new music and sought to combine the relatively soft sound and complex riffing style of their master with various elements of bop, and a few of them ended up in Woody Herman's "Second Herd" big band. Herbie Steward, Zoot Sims, Stan Getz, and Serge Chaloff became known as the Four Brothers after a 1947 hit recording of Jimmy Giuffre's tune of that name. (Al Cohn later replaced Steward.)

By the last decades of the last century, jazz had changed in many ways, but traditionalist aspiring players tended to gravitate toward bop and its latter-day incarnations. Some others, however—most prominently saxophonist Scott Hamilton, born seven years after "Four Brothers" was recorded—came onto the scene in the late seventies with a lyrical but swinging style based on followers of Pres. Hamilton in turn became the mentor of Harry Allen.

A decade younger than Hamilton, Allen began learning music early before settling for the tenor saxophone at age twelve. Soon after graduating from college in 1988 he began to perform with some of the finest players of the day, and his career has since taken him all over the globe. He has recorded with both his mentors and with younger musicians, including guitarist Joe Cohn, Al's son, who worked in Allen's regular quartet. He is particularly beloved in Japan, where he has released more than forty CDs and tours on a regular basis.

Allen bases his style on the swinging melodic conversational method of Zoot Sims, with elements of the lyrical expressiveness of Stan Getz, but also on the grittier work of



Ben Webster and Paul Gonsalves, who rose to prominence in Duke Ellington's band. While based in tradition, he is no antiquarian: his music overcomes time, bridging half the history of jazz in a manner that seems natural and effortlessly contemporary, grounded in full control of his instrument and impressive arranging skills.

Like many older players, his solos tell a long story, combining fleet-footed rhythmic variation with melodic ingenuity grounded in an intuitive sense of harmony. He has an endless repertoire of classic jazz and pop tunes, and it seems that no song, no matter how obscure, can stymie him. He expresses all of this with a masterful control of the timbral possibilities of his tenor sax, ranging from honking and gruff blues shouts to the most delicate, whisper-like singing on ballads.

Harry Allen performs on February 7 at the Kerrtown Concert House with old friends: bassist Paul Keller, drummer Pete Siers, and the Chicago-based guitarist Andy Brown.

—Piotr Michalowski

7:30–9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. \$5. 395-7782, 769-1052, 426-0241.

★Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society. All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. 7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors (\$35 annual dues for those who join). 274-9463.

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. Every Mon. Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. 7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). \$5 (students, free). 971-0990.

6 TUESDAY

Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. Every Tues. (when Ann Arbor Public Schools are in session) through Apr. 30. All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. 9:30–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. \$25 for the year. 665-0105.

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. Every Tues. All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for \$5.50 (age 60 & over, \$3) from 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.; reservations required. 10

a.m.–1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250.

★Adults Tuesday: Jewish Community Center. Every Tues. Activities begin at 11 a.m. with "Energy Exercise" (\$3), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar. Also, at 1 p.m., mah-jongg, quilting, and other games & activities. Homemade buffet luncheon (\$3) available at noon. All invited. 11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971-0990.

★"The Crisis of Multiculturalism in Europe": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. U-M history professor Rita Chin is joined by U-M professors Kristin Dickinson and Damani Partridge in a discussion of Chin's new book. 3:10 p.m., 2239 Lane Hall, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★"Locating the Nodes: From Sensor Arrays to Genomic Networks": U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. U-M engineering professor Alfred Hero discusses the challenges of geolocation and triangulation in the Internet age. Reception follows. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764-6330.

★"Focus on Women": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Feb. 6, 13, & 20. Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18–30 miles, to Dexter and back. 6 p.m., meet at Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 276-0240.

"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch. Every Tues. All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. 6–9 p.m., call for location. \$2 monthly dues. meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/, 945-3035.

"American Business History: How Independence Was Won": Ann Arbor City Club Dine and Dis-

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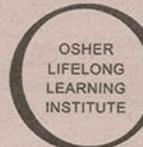


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Wednesday, February 7

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Tuesday, February 13

Getting into Michigan Musical Theater

with Vince J. Cardinal, Chairman of the

UM Musical Theater Department

Tuesday, March 13

You are the "Public" in Public Radio with

Steve Schram, Director of Michigan

Public Media

Thursday Morning Lecture Series

Thursday mornings, 10-11:30AM

Washtenaw Community College,

Towsley Auditorium

4800 E. Huron River Drive, Ann Arbor, MI

February 8, 10:00-11:30am

Other Ways of Doing Things: Urban Activism with Prof. Anya Sirota

February 15, 10:00-11:30am

Plausible Futures: Approaching Architecture and Urban Design From A Complex Systems Perspective with Prof. Geoffrey Thün

February 22, 10:00-11:30am

Update on the City of Detroit with John Gallagher

OLLI Out of Town

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FRIDAYS AFTER 5

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JAN 18-MAR 10, 2018

cover. Talk by U-M American business history lecturer Mary Hinesly. Dinner. Preceded at 5 p.m. by a reception. 6 p.m., City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. \$33 (members, \$28). Reservations required by Feb. 2, 662-3279, ext. 1.

★“Tuesday Night Dinner Ride”: Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. Every Tues. Slow/moderate-paced ride on the B2B trail, 10–20 miles, to an Ann Arbor or Ypsilanti restaurant determined by the group. Front & back lights required; reflective clothing strongly suggested. Note: Rides on Feb. 13, 20, & 27 are tentative. 6:30 p.m., meet at Wheels in Motion, 3402 Washtenaw. Free. 678-8297.

Eastside Weekly Euchre Tournament. Every Tues. Open to all age 18 & over. No partner needed. Cash prize for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd place. 7 p.m., Banfield's Bar & Grill East, 3140 Packard. \$5 entry fee; buy your own food. kari.thurman@gmail.com

English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Every Tues. Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. 7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). \$8 (students, \$4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665-7704.

★“BLUELab Sustainability”: Ann Arbor District Library. Lecture by members of the U-M Living Blue Challenge Team, which provides retrofit designs to make buildings self-sustaining. Audience members create their own DIY sustainable retrofit with advice from the U-M team. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-8301.

★Yaa Gyasi: U-M Institute for the Humanities Jill S. Harris Memorial Lecture. This acclaimed Ghanaian American fiction writer is joined by U-M English professors Gaurav Desai and Aida Levy-Hussen to discuss Gyasi's debut novel *Homegoing*, this year's Washtenaw Reads selection. It explores the damaging effects of the slave trade on 7 generations of a family split between the U.S. and Ghana's Gold Coast. 7 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 936-3518.

★Open Rehearsal: Ann Arbor Grail Singers. Every Tues. All women invited to join this women's chamber choir to sing early music. This month's rehearsals include auditions for new members. 7:15–9:15 p.m., call for location. Free. AnnArborGrailSingers.org. 662-0631.

★Ann Arbor Camera Club. Feb. 6 & 20. Club members show their projected images (Feb. 6) and prints (Feb. 20) on various topics, including this month's assignment, “Architectural Details.” On Feb. 6, UMMA assistant photography curator Jennifer Friess talks about “Depth of Field: Curating Photography's Histories,” and on Feb. 20, club members present “My Favorite Photo by Someone Else” and explain why they like them. 7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School media center, 1655 Newport. Free. 327-4781.

★Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books. All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *La Enfermedad*, Alberto Barrera Tyszka's novel about a doctor struggling with his father's terminal cancer. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662-0600.

★“The Categories of Aristotle”: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Talk by former Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor teacher Claudia Fontana. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 678-5497, (517) 927-3696.

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. Feb. 6 & 20. Open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. Feb. themes: “Transit” (Feb. 6) & “Secrets” (Feb. 20). The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. 7:30–9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), Greylime, 100 N. Ashley. \$8. 764-5118.

7 WEDNESDAY

★“On ‘Bad’ Chinese Food: Reflections on Sweet-and-Sour Pork”: U-M Confucius Institute. Talk by U-M Chinese studies professor Miranda Brown. Noon–1 p.m., Michigan League Koessler Rm. Free. 764-8888.

★Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program. Every Wed. All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. 1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998-9353.

“Flint”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★“Lower Ed in the Digital Society”: U-M Ford School of Public Policy. Virginia Commonwealth University sociology professor Tressie McMillan Cottom discusses the increasing inequality in higher education. Reception follows. 4–5:30 p.m., Prechter Lab, U-M School of Education, 610 E. University. Free. 764-3490.

★“Dragon at the Edge of a Flat World”: U-M School of Art & Design Penny Stamps Speaker Series. New York-based singer and performer (and U-M grad) Joseph Keckler, who's known for his 3-plus-octave operatic voice, reads from his new memoir, a collection of essays that explore everything from corners of downtown NYC, where he made his name performing his songs and plays, to the time he spent in the Midwest. 5:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 668-8463.

“Honey 101”: Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staff discuss and offer taste samples of single-flower honeys. 6–7:30 p.m., Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. \$10. 663-3354.

★Letterpress Lab: Ann Arbor District Library. Every Wed. except Feb. 21. All invited to learn the basics of letterpress printing using vintage handset type. The program begins promptly at 6 p.m. with a safety & equipment orientation. 6–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-4555.

★Jane Austen Book Club: Nicola's Books. Feb. 7 & 21. All invited to discuss Austen's books and spin-offs of them with U-M scholars and librarians. Feb. 7: *Longbourn*, Jo Baker's 2013 reimagining of *Pride and Prejudice* from the perspective of the servants in the story. Feb. 21: Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* and *Eligible*, Curtis Sittenfeld's 2013 contemporary retelling of *Pride and Prejudice*. 7 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 936-2309.

★“A Carbon ‘Price is Right’: Harnessing the Market to Drive Down Carbon Emissions”: Ann Arbor District Library/League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area. Panel discussion with U-M public policy and environmental economy professors, as well as a representative from the Citizens' Climate Lobby. Moderated by U-M ecology professor Knute Nadelhoffer. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327-4555.

“Creating and Running Great Ann Arbor Restaurants”: OLLI after 5 (U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). Talk by local restaurateur Adam Baru, creator of Mani Osteria, Isalita, and Mikette. 7–8:30 p.m., Kellogg Eye Center, 1000 Wall St. \$10. 998-9351.

Taller Than They Appear and the Hackwells: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Double bill. Taller Than They Appear is a quartet of veteran area singer-songwriters—Jere Stormer, Bobby Penock, Sigrid Christiansen, and Lauren Crane—who accompany each other with soulful vocal harmonies and on an eclectic array of instruments, from bells, bongos, woodblocks, washboards and whistles to guitars, violins, and ukuleles. The Hackwells are a local acoustic trio, formerly known as Gather Round, whose original ballads draw on pop-rock, retro-country, and Americana influences. 7–9 p.m., Chelsea Depot, 125 Jackson, Chelsea. \$15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330-5226.

★“Introduction to Steiner’s Thought”: Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America. Every Wed. All invited to join a discussion of *Cosmosophy*, a collection of Steiner's lectures. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 678-5497.

★History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion of Anders Rydell's *The Book Thieves: The Nazi Looting of Europe's Libraries and the Race to Return a Literary Inheritance*. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669-0451.

★Giacomo Scinardo: U-M School of Music. Performance by this Italian classical pianist who's best known for his acclaimed recording of the complete piano music of Mussorgsky. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

Full Metal Jokers: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. This local comedy company presents a stand-up showcase headlined by Robert Jenkins, a Detroit comic and lawyer who tells irreverent jokes with a disarming delivery. Also, performances by area comics Dan Thomas and Felicity Blue. Note: adult content. 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. \$10. info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455-4484.

★“Inspirations”: U-M Concert Band. Courtney Snyder and Andrea Brown conduct this ensemble of music majors in Bernstein's *Candide Overture*, McTee's *Timepiece*, Lauridsen's *O Magnum Mysterium*, Vaughan Williams' *Folk Song Suite*, Françaix's *Sept Danses*, U-M music lecturer Rosanne Etezady's *Shoutout*, and local Pulitzer Prize-winning composer William Bolcom's *Graceful Ghost* and “Machine” from Symphony no. 5. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615-3204.

classical

Joshua Bell

*The sound
of sunlight*

Some years ago, a friend of mine attended a master class given by an internationally renowned violinist. After showing a student some ways to improve her sound, he asked, "Why is it important to have a beautiful tone?" The answer seemed so obvious that the student just looked puzzled. "Because the better your tone, the more..." and then he rubbed his thumb, index, and middle fingers together in the universal sign for money.

By that criterion, Joshua Bell ought to be one of the richest violinists around today. Even among the top tier of classical violinists, his tone stands out. It is so luminous, opulent, and sumptuous that more common adjectives are inadequate. It is the sound of sunlight. From his low open G, where no vibrato is possible, to high harmonics on his E string, fingered so close to the bridge there's barely room for his bow, every note is alive.

But tone alone does not a musician make. There's the myriad of techniques to master, the imperative for impeccable intonation, and, above all, the intelligence needed to communicate through the music. Bell is remarkable here as well. Whether playing the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto, music for the film *The Red Violin*, or Edgar Meyer's Overture for Violin and Orchestra, Bell's profound musical intellect illuminates everything he plays.

Bell is well versed in every period of classical music, from Bach to Barber and beyond, but when he returns to Ann Arbor for a recital at Hill Auditorium on February 10,



ERIK KABIK

he'll focus his program on three pieces that span the evolution from classical to modern. Mozart composed the Violin Sonata in B-flat Major in 1784—in one day! It is late Mozart, and what composer created a better balance between pure emotion and mathematically precise construction? Schubert wrote the Fantasy in C Major in 1827 only a year before he died at the sickeningly young age of thirty-one. He composed it for a virtuoso of his day, and it is not for the faint of heart, especially at the tempos Bell and his accompanist Sam Haywood are likely to take it. Richard Strauss lived to a ripe old eighty-five, longer than Mozart and Schubert combined, and helped usher in the transition from the Romantic to the Modern period. The Violin Sonata in E-flat Major (1887–1888) is the last he wrote in the form that Mozart helped perfect more than 100 years earlier.

Of course, there will be the inevitable encores, the sonic stage fireworks that will prompt complementary explosions from the house. In 2007, at Hill, Bell's announcement prior to playing Rachmaninoff's *Vocalise* elicited an audible sigh of pleasure from the audience. And the end of Sarasate's Introduction and Tarantella propelled us out of our seats as though we'd been shot from cannons.

—Sandor Slomovits

Harry Allen Quartet: Kerrystown Concert House. See review, p. 57. This acclaimed New York City-based jazz tenor saxophonist is joined by Chicago guitarist Andy Brown and 2 local favorites, bassist Paul Keller and drummer Pete Siers. A *Jazz Journal* review calls him "rich and satisfying when he's balleering, mind blowing when he's cooking." 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. Kerrystownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Every Wed. except Feb. 14. Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. Feb. 7, 14, & 21. Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're flying around the room. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. Feb. 14 is a Valentine's dance. 9–11 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Rm. (Feb. 7 & 21), Michigan League Vandenberg Rm. (Feb. 14). \$5 (students, \$4; \$1 discount for members; free for those who attend the lesson). 945–8428.

8 THURSDAY

★U-M Center for Japanese Studies Lecture Series. Feb. 8, 15, & 22. Talks by visiting scholars. Feb. 8: Harvard Law School Japanese legal studies professor J. Mark Ramseyer on "Identity Politics in Japan." Feb. 15: Bowdoin College Asian studies professor Sakura Christmas on "Imperial Japan and the Nature of Borders in Occupied Inner Mongolia." Feb. 22: Sophia University (Tokyo) Japanese history professor Bettina Gramlich-Oka on "A Woman's Network in Japan around 1800." 11:30 a.m., 110 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764–6307.

"The Phantom in Love": Main Street Ventures/Bellini Opera Theatre. Michigan-based Italy-born baritone Dino Valle directs local singers in favorite songs from *Phantom of the Opera*. 3-course dinner. 6 & 8 p.m., Gratzi, 326 S. Main.

FEB. 6

RACKHAM
AUDITORIUM
7PM
JILL S.
HARRIS
MEMORIAL
LECTURE

2017-2018 YEAR OF
ARCHIVES
& FUTURES

All events are held
at the Institute for
the Humanities,
202 S. Thayer,
unless otherwise
noted.

All events are **free**
and open to the
public

734.936.3518

humin@umich.edu

Image: Yaa Gyasi

YAA GYASI

Events at the **Institute for the Humanities**
University of Michigan February 2018

Major Lectures

Feb 6 — "Homegoing: A Conversation with Yaa Gyasi," Jill S. Harris Memorial Lecture with **Yaa Gyasi, Gaurav Desai** and **Aida Levy-Hussen**, Rackham Auditorium, 7pm

Feb 12 — "Archives and Futures: A View from 'the most distant place,'" Marc and Constance Jacobson lecture by **Shamil Jeppie**, Rackham Amphitheatre, 4pm

Chico MacMurtrie/Student Collaboration

Feb 16-Mar 23 — Border Crossers installation by **Chico MacMurtrie**

Live Robotic Border Crossers performances:

Feb 14 — North Campus, Engineering Grounds, time TBD Feb 16: in front of UMMA on State St, 4:30pm

Feb 16 — on Ingalls Mall, 6:30pm

Feb 16 — Special Penny W. Stamps Lecture by **Chico MacMurtrie**, UMMA Aud, 5:30pm, & reception to follow at Institute for the Humanities, 6:30pm

Gallery

Jan 11-Feb 9 — Of 72 exhibition by **Ebony Patterson**

Jan 18-Feb 23 — Pre-Fab/Post-Fab: Art in a Readymade Era pop-up exhibition by **Heidi Barlow, Shaina Kasztelan**, and **Bailey Scieszka**

Feb 1 — "They Were..." Penny W. Stamps Lecture by **Ebony G. Patterson**, Michigan Theater, 5pm, & reception to follow at Institute for the Humanities, 6pm

Feb 22 - Apr 20 — Interior Streets exhibition by **Carl Wilson**

Archives and Futures

Feb 19 — "Sex and the Archives: A View from the Trenches" with **Katherine Sender, Gayle Rubin**, and **Victor Mendoza**, 4pm

FellowSpeak

Feb 20 — "Hiding in Plain Sight: Does Ideology Obscure the Black Conservative Archive?" **Angela Dillard**, 12:30

Frame Salon Series

Feb 19 — Open dialogue on visual art, performance and identity hosted by **Jennifer Harge** and **Taylor Renee Aldridge**, 7pm

Digital Pedagogy & Research

Feb 2 — "Understanding your Online Presence" workshop, 12:30pm



www.lsa.umich.edu/humanities

Faculty Showcase: U-M School of Music. See 1 Thursday. Tonight: violinists Danielle Belen and Stephen Shipp, saxophonists Andrew Bishop and Timothy McAllister, countertenor David Daniels, bassoonist Jeffrey Lyman, oboist Nancy Ambrose King, percussionist Jonathan Ovalle, hornist Adam Unsworth, and pianists Elizabeth Ames, Amy I-Lin Cheng, Martin Katz, and Ellen Rowe. 7:30 p.m. "Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Birth of a Ho' Ass Nation": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Feb. 8 & 15. Area actor Jacob Russell performs his and Mike McGettigan's one-man comedy, a fast-paced history of the American black experience. A bamboozling slave trader, deadbeat founding fathers, and a friendly African lion bring this self-styled "real ass story" to life. 8 p.m., Pointless Brewery & Theatre, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$10 in advance at pointlessbrew.com & at the door. info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455-4484.

"Edges": The Penny Seats Theatre Company. Feb. 8, 9, 11, & 14-16. Laura Sagolla directs local singer-actors in this song-cycle written and performed by Tony award-winning songwriters Benj Pasek & Justin Paul during their sophomore year at U-M in 2005. Performers are Logan Balcom, Kasey Donnelly, Brendon Kelly, Emily Manuel, Kristin McSweeney, and Matt Pecek. 8 p.m. (4 p.m. Feb. 11), Kerrystown Concert House, \$15 in advance at kerrystownconcerthouse.com and (if available) at the door. 769-2999.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Andy Woodhull: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 8-10. This up-and-coming Chicago-bred comic is known for his provoking off-kilter perspectives on familiar realities. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996-9080.

9 FRIDAY

★"History of Chinese Food in America": U-M Confucius Institute Conference. Talks by food historians and chefs. 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m., Michigan League Michigan Rm. Free. 764-8888.

★"Music in Batoni's Portrait of Giacinta Orsini": U-M School of Music. Musicologist John Rice discusses the piece of music featured in Pompeo Batoni's 18th-century portrait of a young noblewoman leaning on a harpsichord and holding a lyre. Rice discovered that the piece resting on the music stand in the painting is a cantata by Antonio Aurisicchio, co-written with the young woman. The lecture is followed by a performance of selections from the cantata by a U-M student chamber ensemble. 5 p.m., 2038 Moore Bldg., 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

"Cheeses to Melt For: Fondue & Raclette": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery staff discuss and offer taste samples of different varieties of fondue and raclette, another popular Swiss melted cheese dish. 6-8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$35. Reservations required. 929-0500.

Vegan Potluck: Huron Valley Humane Society. Bring a vegan dish to pass that serves at least 8 and your own plate, cup, silverware, and serving utensils. 6:30 p.m., HSHV, 3100 Cherry Hill. Free (\$10 donation for those who don't bring food; kids, free). Space limited; reservations recommended at hshv.org/potluck. 661-3575.

★Stamped Leather Bracelets: Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for adults and teens in grades 6 & up. Materials provided. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-8301.

"6th Annual Creature Courtship": The Creature Conservancy. Feb. 9, 10, & 14. All age 21 & over invited for wine and hors d'oeuvres, followed by a presentation, with live animals, on methods of seduction and reproduction in the animal kingdom. 7 p.m. sharp. Creature Conservancy, 4940 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$35. Reservations required at thecreatureconservancy.org/upcoming-events.html. 929-9324.

★"A Field of Foundlings": Literati Bookstore. U-M Slavic languages grad student Grace Mahoney reads, in English and Ukrainian, from her recently published bilingual edition of Ukrainian poet Iryna Starovoyt's collection that explores "the curse and virtue of forgetting" as it relates to dark moments in 20th-century history. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

"The Trojan Women": EMU Theatre Department. See 2 Friday. 7 p.m.

Advanced English Country Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Robert Messer, Susie Lorand, and others lead to music by Steve Schneider, Josh Burdick, and Susie Lorand. For experienced dancers. 7:30-10:30 p.m.

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor African American Cultural and Historical Museum. \$10 suggested donation. Different times & locations. 761-1717.

Feb. 2 & 4: "All or Nothin" (Charles Campbell, 2016). Drama about 28 slaves who escaped from Boone County (KY) in 1853. Q&A with the director follows. 6:45 p.m. (Feb. 2, WCC Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr.) & 1 p.m. (Feb. 4, Michigan Theater).

Ann Arbor Senior Center. \$2 (members, free). 794-6250. 1320 Baldwin. 12:30-3 p.m.

Every Mon.: "Movie Matinee," a DVD screening with films TBA.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327-8301. AADL Pittsfield. 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Feb. 13: "Fire at Sea" (Gianfranco Rosi, 2016). Documentary about life on the Italian island of Lampedusa, a frontline in the European refugee crisis. Italian & English, subtitles.

Ann Arbor Public Schools/Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327-8301. Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport. 6:30-9 p.m.

Feb. 1: "Screenagers" (Delaney Ruston, 2016). Documentary exploring family conflicts over social media, video games, academics, and internet addiction. Followed by a panel discussion with local teachers, school administrators, and parents.

Fathom Events. 623-7469 (Quality 16) & 973-8424 (Ann Arbor 20). Tickets available in advance at fathomevents.com and at the door. Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter), different times.

Feb. 1: "Digimon Adventure Tri. 4" (Akiyoshi Honjo, 2017). Anime adventure about monsters living in a digital world. Ann Arbor 20 only. \$11.50, 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 11 & 12: "Mazinger Z." (Junji Shimizu, 2017). Anime about a giant robot that is created to stop the evil Dr. Hell from attacking Earth. Japanese, subtitles. Tickets TBA. Ann Arbor 20 only. 12:55 p.m. (Feb. 11) & 7 p.m. (Feb. 12).

Feb. 18 & 21: "The Philadelphia Story" (George Cukor, 1940). Classic rom-com. Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant, James Stewart. Ann Arbor 20 only. \$5.75-\$10.50, 2 & 7 p.m.

Feb. 22: "Is Genesis History?" (Thomas Purifoy, 2017). Documentary with scientists and scholars around the world discussing Creationism and evolution. \$11.50 (Ann Arbor 20) & \$12 (Quality 16), 7 p.m.

Feb. 25 & 28: "The Dark Crystal" (Jim Henson & Frank Oz, 1982). Groundbreaking animatronic fantasy about an elf-like creature who embarks on a journey to repair millennium-old damage done to his world. Ann Arbor 20 only. \$11.50, 2 & 7 p.m.

Feb. 27 & Mar. 1: "Kirk Cameron: Connect." Documentary that follows evangelical Christian actor Kirk Cameron as he tries to figure out how to protect his kids from the dangers of the digital world. \$11.50 (Ann Arbor 20) & \$12 (Quality 16), 7 p.m.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. \$5 suggested donation. 327-0270, 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

Feb. 17: "Spiritual Cinema." Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994-3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

Feb. 16: "Walk with Me" (Marc Francis & Max Pugh, 2017). Documentary filmed over 3 years about a community of Zen Buddhist monks and nuns who have given up all their possessions and adopted a life of chastity to practice the art of mindfulness. Discussion follows.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668-TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & U.S. veterans, \$8; MTF members, \$7.50; weekdays before 6 p.m., \$7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Feb. 1: "This is Spinal Tap" (Rob Reiner, 1984). Mockumentary about a fictional English heavy metal band. 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 2: "Groundhog Day" (Harold Ramis, 1993). Clever, charming comedy starring Bill Murray as a burned-out weatherman condemned to relive the same day for an apparent eternity. 7 p.m.

Feb. 13: "Tchoupitoulas" (Bill Ross IV and Turner Ross, 2012). Documentary following 3 teen brothers

Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. \$12 (members, \$10). (248) 288-4737.

★"Music and Influence of Eugène Ysaye": U-M School of Music. U-M violin professor Stephen Shipp and U-M piano professor Martin Katz perform a program celebrating the 20th-century Belgian composer known as the "King of the Violin."

Feb. 3: "Spoor" (Agnieszka Holland, 2017). Crime drama following a retired engineer in the remote Polish countryside who starts her own investigation after finding a body. Poland's entry for this year's Oscar for foreign-language film, the movie has been called "the Polish Fargo." Polish, subtitles.

Feb. 6: "Changing the World, One Wall at a Time" (2017). Documentary about a 2016 global street art campaign to raise awareness of Iranian Bahai youth denied access to higher education. 7 p.m.

Feb. 7: "Django" (Etienne Comar, 2017). Biopic about the legendary Romani French jazz guitarist Django Reinhardt.

Feb. 8: "Waiting for Guffman" (Christopher Guest, 1997). Comedy about a small-time director who invites a famous theater critic to view his amateur theater production. 9:30 p.m.

Opens Feb. 9: "Oscar Shorts." Screening of short films nominated for an Academy Award.

Feb. 10: "Our President" (Chang-jae Lee, 2017). Documentary about the late South Korean president Roh Moo-hyun, who held office 2003-2008. Korean, subtitles. FREE, 1 p.m.

Feb. 13: "The Divine Order" (Petra Volpe, 2017). Drama based on a young Swiss housewife's 1971 crusade to allow women to vote. German, subtitles.

Feb. 15: "Best in Show" (Christopher Guest, 2000). Clever, very funny satire about dog lovers bound for a dog show. 9:30 p.m.

Feb. 21: "Above and Beyond Acoustic: Giving Up the Day Job" (Paul Dugdale, 2017). Documentary about the British electronic dance music group Above & Beyond's decision to go acoustic.

Feb. 22: "A Mighty Wind" (Christopher Guest, 2003). Affectionate mockumentary about aging folk music revivalists attempting a comeback. 9:30 p.m.

Opens Feb. 23: "Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool" (Paul McGuigan, 2017). Biopic about the May-December romance between a young English actor and Oscar-winning Hollywood actress Gloria Grahame. Jamie Bell, Annette Bening.

State Theatre. For complete, updated schedule, see michtheater.org, annarborobserver.com, or call 761-8667. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): \$10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 65 & older, & U.S. veterans, \$8; MTF members, \$7.50; films before 6 p.m. & midnight movies, \$7).

Opens Feb. 2: "The Insult" (Ziad Doueiri, 2017). Drama about social tensions that threaten to spiral out of control when a Lebanese Christian and a Palestinian refugee face off in court. Arabic, subtitles.

Feb. 3: "The World of Us" (Yoon Ga-eun, 2016). An introverted 11-year-old makes friends with the new kid but differences in background drive them apart. FREE, 1 p.m.

Feb. 5: "Kedi" (Ceyda Torun, 2016). Documentary about Istanbul from the perspective of the city's cats. 7 p.m.

Feb. 5: "The Men Who Tread on the Tiger's Tail" (Akira Kurosawa, 1945). A Japanese general and his men disguise themselves as monks in order to pass an enemy border patrol. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Feb. 6: "Buzzard" (Joel Potrykus, 2015). Horror-satire about a disgruntled temp worker whose mounting paranoia after his attempt at petty theft sends him onto the streets of Detroit with a bunch of bogus checks and a dangerously altered Nintendo Power Glove. 7 p.m.

Feb. 7: "The Alchemist Cookbook" (Joel Potrykus, 2016). Trippy drama about a young outcast who isolates himself in the woods with his cat. When he turns from chemistry to black magic, he awakens something sinister. 7 p.m.

Opens Feb. 9: "In the Fade" (Fatih Akin, 2017). Drama about a woman's quest for vengeance after her husband and son are killed by a neo-Nazi bomb. German, subtitles.

Feb. 10: "The Muppets Take Manhattan" (Frank Oz, 1984). A musical comedy in which Kermit discovers why they say there's a broken heart for every light on Broadway. Kids 12 & under free. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 12: "The Fits" (Anna Rose Holmer, 2015). An 11-year-old tomboy struggling to fit in with an all-girl dance troupe finds herself in danger when the dancers begin to have fainting spells and violent fits. Spanish, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Feb. 12: "Rashomon" (Akira Kurosawa, 1950). Superb Oscar-winning drama tells the story of a crime through several participants' viewpoints. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Feb. 13: "Tchoupitoulas" (Bill Ross IV and Turner Ross, 2012). Documentary following 3 teen brothers

as they discover the nightlife of New Orleans. 7 p.m.

Opens Feb. 14: "Double Lover" (François Ozon, 2017). Drama about a young woman who becomes romantically involved with her psychotherapist, only to discover that he may have a secret life.

Feb. 14: "Welcome to Pine Hill" (Keith Miller, 2012). Drama about a reformed drug dealer who receives a grim medical diagnosis that compels him to make peace with his past. 7 p.m.

Feb. 15: "Contemporary Color" (Bill Ross IV and Turner Ross, 2016). Documentary about legendary musician David Byrne's 2015 live show celebrating the art of Color Guard, where 10 high school teams of synchronized dancers perform live with famous performers like Saint Vincent and Nelly Furtado. 7 p.m.

Feb. 17: "Muppets from Space" (Tim Hill, 1999). Gonzo discovers his extraterrestrial origins. Kids 12 & under free. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 18: "Lost in Paris" (Dominique Abel and Fiona Gordon, 2016). Whimsical rom-com about a small-town librarian who falls in love with a charismatic drifter while looking for her elderly aunt in Paris. 7 p.m.

Feb. 19: "The Seven Samurai" (Akira Kurosawa, 1954). Classic story of a 16th-century village that hires professional tough guys to stave off marauding bandits. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

Feb. 19: "Who Took the Bomp? Le Tigre on Tour" (Kerthy Fix, 2010). Documentary following the iconic feminist electronic band Le Tigre on their final international tour in 2004-05. 7 p.m.

Feb. 20: "The Love Witch" (Anna Biller, 2016). This homage to Hammer horror films is about a modern witch who uses magic to make men fall in love with her. 7 p.m.

Feb. 24: "Labyrinth" (Jim Henson, 1986). Gothic fantasy starring David Bowie as a goblin king who gives a teenager 13 hours to rescue her baby brother by solving a labyrinth full of Muppet monsters. Kids 12 & under free. 1:30 p.m.

Feb. 26: "Throne of Blood" (Akira Kurosawa, 1957). Stunning, eloquent reconnection of Shakespeare's Macbeth, set in feudal Japan's samurai warrior society. Japanese, subtitles. 7 p.m.

U-M Armenian Studies Program. FREE. 763-0622. 555 Weiser, 500 Church.

Feb. 21: "The Last Inhabitant" (Jivan Avetisyan, 2016). Drama about the expulsion of an Armenian village in Azerbaijan in 1988, during the decline of the USSR. An Armenian stonemason stays behind to build a mosque amid ethnic and religious tensions as he waits for his daughter to heal from her psychic trauma. Armenian & Russian, subtitles. 7-8:30 p.m.

U-M Center for South Asian Studies. FREE. 2435 North Quad (105 S. State), 4 p.m.

Feb. 12: "Demons in Paradise" (Jude Ratnam, 2017). Documentary about the director's experience as a 5-year-old fleeing on a train from the massacre of the Tamils by the pro-Sinhalese Sri Lankan government. When he was 26, he took the same train, documenting the effects of the Sri Lankan Civil War, which ended in 2009.

U-M Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies Program. FREE. 764-0351. Stern Auditorium, UMMA.

Feb. 6: "The Constitution" (Rajko Grlić, 2016). Drama following 4 people who live in the same apartment building but avoid each other because of religious, ethnic, and sexual differences. Q&A with the director. Croatian, subtitles. 7-9 p.m.

U-M Islamic Studies. FREE. 764-0351. 455 Weiser Hall, 500 Church.

Feb. 21: "Luna Papa" (Bakhtyar Khudojnazarov, 1999). Magical realist tragicomedy about a teenage Tatar girl who mysteriously finds herself pregnant. Told from the fetus' point of view. Russian, Tajik, Uzbek, subtitles. 7-9:30 p.m.

WSF Productions. FREE, but donations accepted. wsfofficial@gmail.com. Riverside Arts Center (76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti), 7 p.m.

Feb. 2: "Small Fish." Screening of this short film, a fable about people seeking help in hard times. Also, screenings of 2 other short films and behind-the-scenes footage for all 3 films by this new Ypsilanti production company of EMU grads and students.

Abbott, Richard Bissell, Richard Adler, and Jerry Ross's lively musical about labor woes and budding romance in the Sleep-Tite pajama factory. Songs include "Steam Heat," "Hey There," and "Hernando's Hideaway." 7:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sun.), Huron High Auditorium, 2727 Fuller. Tickets \$15 (students & seniors, \$13) in advance at showtix4u.com. Huronplayers.weebly.com, 994-2040.

"Kiss Me, Kate": Burns Park Players. See 2 Friday, 7:30 p.m.

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. 8–10 p.m., 5th-floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diagonal side of the building). Free. 764-3440.

★Painting: Common Cup. Local artist April Embury gives a hands-on painting demo. Supplies provided. 8 p.m., Common Cup, 1511 Washtenaw. Free. 327-6914.

★"Dekagon: A Concert of Works by Professor Anil Çamci": U-M School of Music. U-M performing arts technology professor Çamci premieres a new work and performs his electronic works from the past decade. 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Davis Technology Studio, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

Robbie Fulks: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Talented Chicago-based alt-country singer-songwriter whose music is an offbeat yet affecting blend of traditional country, early rock 'n' roll, and new wave 80s pop. His latest album, *Upland Stories*, is a collection of story songs based in the upland areas of Virginia and North Carolina where he grew up. Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$20 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Edges": The Penny Seats Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday, 8 p.m.

"Cue This": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. See 2 Friday, 8 & 10 p.m.

Andy Woodhull: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday, 8 & 10:30 p.m.

10 SATURDAY

14th Annual Ice Fishing Derby: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. Kids and adults invited to catch northern pike, blue gill, bass, and crappie in this annual fishing derby. Prizes. Bring your own bait. No alcohol, ATVs, or snowmobiles. Weather permitting. 7 a.m.–5 p.m., Independence Lake County Park Beach Center, 3200 Jennings, Dexter. \$10 (kids 12 & under, \$5) in advance at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org; \$15 (kids, \$10) at the gate. pahlj@ewashtenaw.org; 449-4437, ext. 201.

Huron Gun Collectors. Feb. 10 & 11. About 100 dealers and collectors offer guns, knives, ammunition, and other hunting equipment for sale, including antiques and collectibles. Concessions. Youth age 17 & under must be accompanied by an adult. 9 a.m.–4 p.m. (Sat.) & 9 a.m.–3 p.m. (Sun.), Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Admission \$5 (members, \$3; kids age 12 & under, free). (517) 605-0624.

Winter Science Series: Hudson Mills Activity Center. Programs for kids ages 8–12 presented by Hudson Mills naturalist Mark Irish. Feb. 10: "Love Birds." Demonstration of how birds survive cold temperatures. Also, attendees make a heart-shaped bird feeder ornament. Materials provided. Feb. 24: "Mammal Marvels." Demonstration of how mammals survive cold temperatures. If there's snow on the ground, attendees make cardboard snowshoes; if not, they construct a miniature den in the woods to keep a cup of water from freezing. 10 a.m., Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. \$7 per child. \$10 vehicle entrance fee. 449-4300.

"Winter Healing Teas": Project Grow. Washtenaw County Parks & Rec naturalist Shawn Severance discusses how to make medicinal infusions from wild native plants. Tastings. 10 a.m.–noon, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$5. Space limited; pre-registration requested. 996-3169.

"Brick Bash 2018": Skyline High School Band Fundraiser. Feb. 10 & 11. This public Lego building party for all ages includes piles of Lego, Duplo, and Bionicle parts to play with. Also, a Duplo play area for young kids, displays of amazing models by Lego hobbyists from around the country, and, Saturday only, a performance by the Skyline Drumline (2 p.m.), followed by a percussion petting zoo. Sale of Lego products, custom sets, and jewelry. Concessions. 11 a.m.–6 p.m. (Sat.) & noon–5 p.m. (Sun.), Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. \$5 (families, \$20). BrickBash.com, 637-9429.

★Ice Carving Festival: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. College ice carving teams from Southeastern Michigan use chainsaws,

flamethrowers, and other tools to make ice sculptures. Crafts & refreshments. Noon–4 p.m., County Farm Park. Free. 971-6355, ext. 0.

★"Spinning Lab": Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Jillian Moreno shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to spin yarn, as well as how to combine different types of fibers in a project. Noon–3 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-8301.

"L'Elisir d'Amore": Fathom Events. Broadcast (Feb. 10) & rebroadcast (Feb. 14) of the Metropolitan Opera production of Donizetti's popular, light-hearted boy-meets-girl opera best known for memorable arias like "Quanto e bella" and "Una furtive lagrima." Italian, subtitles. The Feb. 14 show is at Ann Arbor 20 only. Noon (Feb. 10) and 1 & 6:30 p.m. (Feb. 14), Quality 16 (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter). Tickets \$18 (Quality 16) & \$25 (Ann Arbor 20) in advance at fathomevents.com/events and at the door. 827-2863 (Quality 16) & 973-8424 (Ann Arbor 20).

★U-M Men's Lacrosse vs. Cleveland State. The U-M also has a game this month vs. Bellarmine (Feb. 13, 3 p.m.). 1 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, 1202 S. State. Free. 764-0247.

★"25th Annual Winter Walkabout": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy. All invited for snacks, warm drinks, and socializing, followed at 2 p.m. by a drive 1 mile south for a leisurely 90-minute walk through the 424-acre LeFurge Woods Nature Preserve to look for animal tracks and enjoy the winter landscape. No pets. Dress for the weather. Postponed to Feb. 11 in case of inclement weather; check smleland.org or facebook.com/southeastmichiganlandconservancy. 1:15 p.m., Superior Township Hall, 3040 N. Prospect at Cherry Hill, Superior Twp. Free. 484-6565.

Victorian Valentine Tea: Kempf House Museum. Feb. 10 & 11. An elegant traditional tea with a menu that includes both sweets and savories. With romantic piano music played on the Kempf family's 1877 Steinway. Period attire encouraged. This popular annual fundraiser usually sells out well in advance. 1:30 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. \$25. Reservations required by Feb. 4. 994-4898.

★"Make a Valentine Card!": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for all ages. Materials provided. 2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327-8301.

★"Amigurumi Crochet Critter Joy": Ann Arbor District Library. Local crafter Beth Battey shows teens & adults how to crochet a small octopus as an introduction to this Japanese art of crocheting or knitting small stuffed toys. Supplies provided. Previous crochet experience recommended. 2–5 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327-8301.

★U-M Women's Lacrosse vs. Butler. The U-M also has a game this month vs. Canisius (Feb. 18, 1 p.m.). 3 p.m., Oosterbaan Field House, 1202 S. State. Free. 764-0247.

★"Discovering Zen in American Poetry": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Guiding Teacher of Great Wave Zen Sangha (Ludington) John Gendo Wolff reads from his new book, *The Driftwood Shrine: Discovering Zen in American Poetry*. Signing. 3:45–5 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

"Kiss Me, Kate": Burns Park Players. See 2 Friday, 4 p.m.

"Winter Evening at the Farm": Cobblestone Farm Association Fundraiser. Tours of the restored 1844 Ticknor-Campbell farmhouse, illuminated by candles, and period music by Cobblestone docents. Also, demos of mechanical sock making, spinning, and weaving. 5–9 p.m., Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard (next to Buhr Park). \$2 (kids, \$1; family, \$5; kids under 3, free). 794-8120.

★U-M Jazz Day: U-M School of Music. U-M jazz faculty members and students perform originals and standards as well as works by the late U-M jazz professor Geri Allen. 5 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Hankinson Rehearsal Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

★Bluegrass Gospel Jam Session. Mark and Claudia Aills are joined by other local string musicians for a program of bluegrass and country gospel tunes. 6–8:30 p.m., Dexter Senior Center, 7720 Ann Arbor St., Dexter. Free, but donations accepted for Dexter Senior Center. 878-1078.

"The Footprints of African American Composers in Michigan": First United Methodist Global Music Weekend. Dinner prepared by James Beard award-winning chef Alex Young, followed by a talk by WSU music department chair Norah Duncan IV on "The Musical Arts at WSU." Followed by a free Global Music Concert (7:30 p.m.) with choirs from WSU and FUMC. Program includes works by noted African American composers Moses Hogan, William Dawson, Adolphus Hailstork, and Duncan himself. 6 p.m., \$15 (students, \$8, families, \$40, kids under 5, free). FUMC, 120 S. State. 662-4536.

"Run Broadway": Run Ann Arbor. All invited to run 2–10 miles on a 2-mile loop that starts at the top



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RUTH MESSINGER

AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICES

FROM AMOS TO HESCHEL AND BEYOND:
A PERSONAL REFLECTION ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AS AN INHERENT
PART OF JUDAISM PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE



THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 2018, 6:30 PM RECEPTION, 7 PM LECTURE
FORUM HALL, PALMER COMMONS
100 WASHTENAW AVE., UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

As a Jew in America over the last 75 years, Ruth Messinger will reflect on her personal experience with and understanding of what she calls social justice Judaism. Where in our texts do we find stories about justice and exhortations to be just? What is meant by social justice in this context and how has it been differently interpreted throughout the Torah and throughout our history? This lecture and the article to come do not claim to be the definitive treatment of this issue, but rather to constitute one woman's journey, summarizing at least some of what she has learned and done and what she thinks needs to be done now.

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of Broadway, goes through part of North Campus, down Broadway to just before the bridge and back up to the starting point. 7 p.m., meet at Panera, 1773 Plymouth Rd. Free; \$5 donations accepted. Registration available at runsignup.com/Race/MI/AnnArbor/RunBroadway. nick@annarborrunningcompany.com

"Owl Do I Love Thee": Leslie Science and Nature Center. Feb. 10 & 14. Couples age 18 & up invited to learn about the mating habits of the LSNC raptors and go on a candle-lit walk to read romantic poems posted at various points on the trail. Also, board games and art projects. Beverages and desserts provided. 7-9 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. \$30 (members, \$25) per couple. Preregistration required by Feb. 5 at lesliesnc.org or 997-1553.

Lunar New Year Celebration: U-M Chinese Students and Scholars Association. All invited to celebrate the Year of the Dog with live music performed by local soloists and choruses, storytelling, and traditional dances. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. \$10-\$15 at michtheater.org

"The Trojan Women": EMU Theatre Department. See 2 Friday. 7 p.m.

2nd Saturday Contra Dance Party: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Rick Szumski calls to music by Hotline Strings. Wear loose fitting clothing and comfortable shoes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson for beginners. 7:30-10:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. \$11 (members, \$10; age 29 & under, \$5). fjkarsch@umich.edu, 769-2133.

"The Pajama Game": Huron High School Players. See 9 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

"Valentine's Ragtime Ball": Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy. Dances that were popular from 1900 to the 1920s, with live music by the Huron Valley Serenaders. Period attire encouraged. Preceded at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. by dance lessons. 8-11 p.m., Zal Gaz Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. \$30. Preregistration requested at vintagedance.com/ragtime.htm. 769-0041.

Spirit Singing Band: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. Local musicians Kath Weider-Roos, Lori Fithian, Sam Clark, Aron Kaufman, and Stephen Morris are joined by the audience for a night of meditation, improvisation, poetry and trance chant on the subject of love. 8-10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. \$8 (\$15 for 2). 327-0270.

Joshua Bell: University Musical Society. See review, p. 59. Superstar violinist Bell makes his 7th UMS appearance, accompanied this time by pianist Sam Heywood. Program: Mozart's Violin Sonata in B-flat Major, Richard Strauss' Violin Sonata in E-flat Major, Schubert's Fantasy in C Major, and other works TBA. 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$17-\$85 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

NOW Ensemble: Kerrystown Concert House. This acclaimed NYC-based chamber ensemble led by composer-electric guitarist Mark Dancigers "can breathe life into highly abstract, textural soundscapes just as easily as they can into upbeat, lyrical tunes," according to a WQXR-FM (Newark) review. Its most recent album, *Rounder Songs*, finds the commonalities between Appalachian folk music and 21st-century post-minimalist classical music. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$20-\$35 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. kerrystownconcerthouse.com, 769-2999.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

Andy Woodhull: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

11 SUNDAY

★Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp. All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. 1-4 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678-7549, 663-0262.

Victorian Valentine Tea: Kempf House Museum. See 10 Saturday. 1:30 p.m.

★"Red Circle: Designing Japan in Contemporary Posters": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of 1980s Japanese graphic design posters that were meant to change Japan's global image. The exhibit also includes works by Paul Rand, a graphic designer who created the IBM THINK promotional campaign that turned the letters of its logo into pictures. 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★Washtenaw Reads Book Discussion: Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grades 9 & up invited to discuss *Homegoing*, Yaa Gyasi's acclaimed novel exploring the damaging effects of the slave trade on 7 generations of a family split between the U.S. and Ghana's Gold Coast. 2-3 p.m., AADL Pittsfield. Free. 327-8301.

★"Glove Monsters": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for adults and teens in grades 6 & up repurposing odd gloves into stuffed monsters with a few simple stitches. Materials provided, but bring leftover gloves if you have them. 2-3:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-8301.

★"Coping with Grief": Ann Arbor District Library. Detroit writer Ron Gries discusses *Through Death to Life*, his book of emotional, Christian-based reflections upon his wife's terminal illness. 2-4 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek. Free. 327-8301.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Trojan Women": EMU Theatre Department. See 2 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

"The Pajama Game": Huron High School Players. See 9 Friday. 3 p.m.

2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off: Michigan Ability Partners. All invited to sample chili and vote on a favorite. Live music by local singer-songwriter Adam Plomaritas. Silent auction, raffle, & cash bar. Prizes for the best chili. 3-6 p.m., National Center for Manufacturing Sciences, 3025 Boardwalk. \$20 admission (includes 2 drink tokens). To enter a chili-making team, email dbeagle@mapagency.org. 975-6880.

★"This Is My Beloved Son: A Festival of Hymns": Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival. Organist Michael Burkhardt, an internationally known hymn festival director, leads the Ypsilanti First Presbyterian Church chancel choir and audience members in hymns that celebrate Epiphany and the Transfiguration, in styles ranging from African American spirituals and German chorales to Taizé, Tanzanian, Israeli, and Welsh traditions. Reception follows. 4 p.m., First Presbyterian, 300 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Free. 482-1525.

"Edges": The Penny Seats Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 4 p.m.

"Coloring with Cats": Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center. All age 12 & up invited to color while interacting with adoptable cats. Snacks, soda, and coloring supplies provided. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Tiny Lions, 5245 Jackson Rd. (ste. A1). \$10. Preregistration recommended at tinylions.org/coloringwithcats. 661-3575.

"Ann Arbor Community Sing": Ann Arbor Senior Center. All invited to join this monthly gathering to sing songs from the various branches of American folk music. 7-8:45 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$5. 794-6250.

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam": Feb. 11 & 25. Musicians of all ability levels invited to sing and play anything from classic rock, Motown, and blues to bluegrass, folk, and country. Singers and players of all acoustic instruments (strings, horns, and woodwinds) welcome. Led by local veteran musicians Bill Connors and Phil McMillion. The 2nd Sunday of each month features a focus song, followed by jamming. The 4th Sunday features an open mike for solo, duo, and trio performers, followed by jamming. Also, on Feb. 18, there is a session for songwriters to try out their new work and get critiques. 7-9 p.m., U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. \$5 for participants, spectators free. Preregistration required at Meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 998-9353.

★"8 Pointless Minutes: A Long Form Improv Jam": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All invited to form groups to perform an 8-minute improv sketch. No experience necessary. Spectators welcome. 7:30 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Free (pay-what-you-can for spectators). info@pointlessbrew.com, (989) 455-4484.

"Cape Breton Fiddle Night": Stony Lake Brewing Acoustic Routes Concert. Fiddlers Katie McNally and Rachel Reeds and pianist Neil Pearlman are frequent collaborators at the Canadian American Club, the hub of the Boston's Cape Breton community. McNally was dubbed "the new face of Scottish fiddling in the USA" by The Living Tradition, a Southern California nonprofit dedicated to the preservation of traditional music and dance. Michigan native Reeds, the 2013 New England Regional Scottish Fiddle champion, has just released her first album, *SparkJoy*. Pearlman's keyboard skills have drawn praise from Cape Breton fiddle legend Jerry Holland, who likened Pearlman's hands during a performance to "watching two spiders on crack." 8 p.m., Stony Lake Brewing, 447 E. Michigan Ave., Saline.

\$15 (\$10 for Saline Fiddlers members) at the door. 316-7919.

"Follies": University Musical Society. Taped broadcast of the acclaimed National Theatre (London) production of Stephen Sondheim and James Goldman's 1971 musical about the reunion of follies showgirls in a vintage vaudeville theater, where they are haunted by the ghosts of their former lives. "Follies" is here revealed afresh to be considerably more than the sum of its ravishing melodic parts. The beauty comes embedded in—intermingled with—the bleak," says a *New York Times* review. The score includes "I'm Still Here," "Broadway Baby," "Too Many Mornings," "Losing My Mind," and "Could I Leave You?" 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets \$18-\$22 in advance at ums.org, the Michigan League, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

12 MONDAY

"Conversations on Europe": U-M Center for European Studies. Talks by U-M public policy professor Scott Greer on "Brexit Means Brexit: But What Does that Mean for Scotland and Ireland?" and Texas A&M University Hispanic studies professor Alberto Moreiras on "Spain's New Populist Left: An Impossible Hegemony." 4-5:30 p.m., 110 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764-3501.

★U-M Science, Technology, & Society Program Lectures. Feb. 12: Durham (UK) University sociology professor Tiago Moreira on "Translating the Cell Biology of Aging?: On the Importance of Choreographing Knowledge." Feb. 19: MSU philosophy professor Kyle Whyte on "Indigenous Climate Change Studies and Justice: Indigenizing Futures, Decolonizing the Anthropocene." 4-5:30 p.m., 1014 Tisch, 435 S. State. Free. 763-2066.

★"Archives and Futures: A View from 'The Most Distant Place'": U-M Institute for the Humanities Marc and Constance Jacobson Lecture. University of Cape Town history professor Shamil Jeppie discusses Timbuktu's importance as the scholarly nexus between the West and the East. 4-6 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 936-3518.

★"Marching Dykes, Liberated Sluts, and Concerned Mothers: Women Transforming Public Space": U-M Institute for Research on Women and Gender. EMU women's and gender studies professor Elizabeth Curran discusses her new book. 4:10 p.m., 2239 Lane, 204 S. State. Free. 764-9537.

★7th Annual Shirley Verrett Awards Ceremony: U-M Center for the Education of Women. Classically trained singers TBA perform Antônio Carlos Gomes's "Ave Maria," Florence Price's "My Dream," and other works by Brazilian and African American composers in honor of this year's award winner, U-M Afroamerican and African studies professor Naomi André. The award is named for the late internationally acclaimed opera singer Verrett, a U-M voice professor. Reception follows. 5 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. Reservations requested at cew.umich.edu/events/7th-annual-shirley-verrett-award-ceremony/. 20171113. contactcew@umich.edu, 764-6360.

★"Skins, Skeins, and Stitches: Fiberart Through the Ages": Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild. Illustrated talk by WSU art history instructor Wendy Evans. The program begins with socializing and a display of members' work. 6:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church Piper Hall (lower level, enter on the east side of the building and take elevator down), 1501 W. Liberty. Free. annarborfiberarts@gmail.com .

★"Fiber Arts Lab": Ann Arbor District Library. Feb. 12 & 26. All invited to learn the basics of knitting (Feb. 12) and crochet (Feb. 26). Materials provided. Experienced fiber artists are invited to bring a project to work on. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327-8301.

★"Why Did Emancipation Take So Long?": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table. Talk by club member Fred Priebe. 7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. Education Center Exhibition Rm., 5305 Elliott Dr. Free. (517) 750-2741.

★"A Tribute to Ella Fitzgerald": Ann Arbor District Library. Sheila Landis, a 7-time winner of the Detroit Music Award for Best Jazz Vocalist, presents a program of songs made famous by the legendary jazz singer. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327-4555.

★Contemporary Directions Ensemble: U-M School of Music. Oriol Sans conducts this adventurous ensemble of music majors in works TBA. 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Hankinson Rehearsal Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

13 TUESDAY

★"Wildlife and Mute Swan Management": Good Thyme Garden Club. Talk by Department of Natural Resources wildlife biologist Sara Thompson. 10

a.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. 730-2947.

"Getting into Michigan Musical Theater": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by new U-M musical theatre department chair Vince Cardinal. Fifth in a series of 10 monthly lectures. 10-11:30 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$65 (members, \$45) for the 10-lecture series. Memberships are \$20 a year. \$10 per lecture for members. 998-9351.

★"Super Powers in Turmoil: The Turn of the 7th Century and the Rebirth of Jewish Apocalyptic Literature": U-M Frankel Center for Judaic Studies. Hebrew University (Jerusalem) Jewish history professor Oded Irshai discusses Jewish apocalyptic literature in the period that spans the Persian conquest, Byzantine reconquest, and Muslim conquest of Palestine. 4 p.m., 2022 Thayer Bldg., 202 S. Thayer. Free. 763-9047.

"Home Sweet Home": Ozone House Fundraiser. Wine, cheese, and chocolates. Proceeds benefit Ozone House programs and services for LGBTQ youth. 6:30 p.m., Greylene, 100 N. Ashley. Tickets \$75 in advance by Feb. 6 at ozonehouse.org. 662-2265.

★"Products of the Hive: Salves and Balms": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers. Talk by Michigan beekeeper Sheldon Schwitek. 6:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. A2B2club@gmail.com

★Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department. All age 21 & over invited to discuss *Every Heart a Doorway*, Seanan McGuire's multiple award-winning 2016 novel about children who have traveled to alternate worlds and find it hard to transition back to reality. 7-9 p.m., 3154 Angell Hall. Free. 764-2553.

★"Obama: The Call of History": U-M Ford Presidential Library. *New York Times* chief White House correspondent Peter Baker discusses his new book about Obama's presidency and legacy. Book sale, signing, and reception. 7 p.m., Ford Library, 1000 Beal. Free. 205-0555.

★"This Will Be My Undoing: Living at the Intersection of Black, Female, and Feminist in (White) America": Literati Bookstore. New York editor Morgan Jenkins discusses her new collection of essays about her experiences as a black woman in a world that objectifies, silences, and marginalizes black women. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

"Ann Arbor Bluegrass Meetup": Ann Arbor Senior Center. Feb. 13 & 27. All musicians invited to bring their acoustic instruments to play bluegrass and bluegrass-style music. Vocalists welcome. 7-9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. \$5 fee to cover building rental. a2bluegrass.com, 794-6250.

★"Facing the Anthropocene: Fossil Capitalism and the Crisis of the Earth System": Huron Valley Sierra Club Book Club. All invited to discuss Canadian ecosocialist activist Ian Angus's book. 7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, Westgate shopping center. Free. 996-9080.

★Alexander Kobrin: U-M School of Music. Performance by this Eastman School of Music piano professor, winner of the 2005 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

★Dan Graser & Kathryn Goodson: U-M School of Music. Grand Valley State University saxophone professor Graser and U-M pianist Goodson perform contemporary works, including Warren Benson's *Aeolian Song*, John Anthony Lennon's *Symphonic Rhapsody*, Gregory Wanamaker's *Sonata Deus Sax Machina*, Jennifer Higdon's *Concerto*, and U-M music lecturer Rosanne Etezady's *Streetlegal*. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615-3204.

14 WEDNESDAY

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★Ann Arbor Wild Ones. Local land managers and landscape designers discuss their strategies for restoring and managing landscapes after invasive plants have been removed. 6:45-8:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. Reservations required. a2ikebana@gmail.com

★"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★"Drumminuity!" Local drummer & drum teacher Lori Fithian leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. 7-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426-7818.

★"Chocolates & Valentines": Ann Arbor District Library. People's Food Co-op head baker Keegan Rodgers offers an introduction to chocolate. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327-4555.

★"Master the Art of Recovery and Injury Prevention": Ann Arbor District Library. Ann Arbor chiropractor Andrew Gessert discusses stretching techniques to promote healing. 7-8:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. Preregistration required. 971-0990.

★"Tough Jews": Jewish Community Center. Illustrated talk by Jewish Cultural Society teacher Larry Kuperman about the period between the world wars, when ghetto life produced 2 related paths for upward social mobility for American Jews: boxing and organized crime. 7 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. Free. Preregistration required. 971-0990.

★"Excursions in Ecuador": Pittsfield Union Grange. Club members Peter Baker and Arlene Kindel give a photo-illustrated talk on their recent trip. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass). 7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. Free. 761-6172.

"American Whiskey & Chocolates": Zingerman's Greylene. Zingerman's staffers Beth Vandergift and Emily Case discuss and offer tastings of white, milk, and dark chocolates paired with Tennessee whisky, Kentucky bourbon, and Monongahela rye. 7:30-9 p.m., Greylene, 100 N. Ashley. \$35. Reservations required. 663-3400.

★History Readers: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to join a discussion, led by EMU history professor emeritus Michael Homel, of Wendy Lower's *Hitler's Furies: German Women in the Nazi Killing Fields*. 7:30-9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 484-3613.

Emmanuel Pahud: University Musical Society. This Berlin-based star flutist performs with "hard-won brilliance and easily worn charm," says a *Guardian* (UK) review. The adventurous program includes arrangements of sonatas written for other instruments. He's accompanied by pianist Alessio Bax. Program: Poulen's Sonata for Flute and Piano, Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata in A Minor, Schumann's Fantasy Pieces, and Mendelssohn's Violin Sonata in F Major. 8 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Tickets \$26-\$56 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

"Edges": The Penny Seats Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Valentine's Day Sweetheart Show": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Detroit-based self-styled "recovering lawyer" Connie Ettinger delivers fast-paced observations on everything from slow bureaucracy to people who take hair dryers into the shower with them. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 reserved seating in advance, \$12 general admission at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"You for Me for You": U-M Theatre Department. Feb. 15-18. U-M theatre professor Priscilla Lindsay directs U-M theatre students in award-winning playwright Mia Chung's magic realist drama about 2 North Korean sisters escaping to America. A *Washingtonian* review says it "dazzles and repels, revealing the ugliness buried in both very different cultures." 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.) 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$20 (students, \$12) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office or at smtd.umich.edu, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★Carolyn Chen: U-M School of Music. This L.A. musician blends electronic music and video with the *guqin*, a Chinese 7-string zither traditionally played for private meditation in nature. The *New York Times* praised one of her performances as "alluring ... a quiet but lush meditation." 8 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Davis Technology Studio, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

"Or": Kickshaw Theatre. Every Thurs.-Sun., Feb. 15-Mar. 4. Suzi Regan directs this professional theater company in Liz Duffy Adams' inventive 2009 neo-restoration comedy based on the life of the pioneering 1660s female playwright Aphra Behn. Desperate to get out of the spy trade, Behn has a shot at producing a play at one of the only 2 London companies—if she can finish by morning, despite interruptions from several love interests. 8 p.m. (Thurs.-Sat.) & 4 p.m. (Sun.), Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport. Tickets \$25 (students, \$10) in advance at kickshawtheatre.org & at the door. 203-0556.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Edges": The Penny Seats Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Birth of a Ho' Ass Nation": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Totally Offensive Politically Incorrect Show": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. An eve-

★"Critical Studies of Music and Misogynoir in the Age of YouTube": U-M School of Music. Talk by SUNY-Albany music professor Kyra Gaunt. 5 p.m., 2026 U-M Moore Bldg., 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

★Hieu Minh Nguyen & Nicholson Baker: U-M English Department Zell Visiting Writers Series. Readings by these 2 writers. Nguyen is a Vietnamese American poet and performer from Saint Paul (MN) whose forthcoming book, *Not Here*, is a collection of poems that "illuminate those spaces between sincerity and mischief, vulnerability and audacity," says poet Terrance Hayes. Baker is a novelist and nonfiction writer from Maine who's known for eyebrow-raising plots and dazzling, evocative details sifted from ordinary experience. His 2016 book, *Substitute: Going to School with a Thousand Kids*, is a memoir about his experiences as a substitute teacher in Maine. Signing. 5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 615-3710.

★"IA with Joshua Johnson": U-M Wallace House/Michigan Radio. Journalist Johnson, host of the daily NPR show *IA*, the successor to *The Diane Rehm Show*, interviews panelists on the first amendment, free speech, and what they mean in a changing America. 6-7:30 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free. 998-7666.

★Nerd Nite Ann Arbor: Ann Arbor District Library. Popular monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at annarbor.nerdnite.com) who give fun yet informative talks, 18-21 minutes long, about topics that interest them, from nanoparticles to the science of the Simpsons and the genealogy of Godzilla. 7-9:30 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. Free. 327-4555.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 7 p.m.

★Arthur Greene: U-M School of Music. This U-M piano professor performs works by Scriabin—with projections of matching symbolist art—and Beethoven's Piano Sonata no. 32 in C Minor. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

"The Last Days of Judas Iscariot": U-M Musical Theatre Department. Feb. 15-18. U-M musical theatre professor Vincent Cardinal directs U-M musical theatre students in Stephen Guigris's 2005 comic fantasia about Judas's trial in purgatory interwoven with flashbacks to scenes from his early life. With their own questionable agendas, both the prosecution and defense cross-examine a wide array of witnesses from Mother Teresa and Freud to Pontius Pilate and Satan. 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets \$20 (students, \$12) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office or at smtd.umich.edu, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

"Washingtonian": U-M Theatre Department. Feb. 15-18. U-M theatre professor Priscilla Lindsay directs U-M theatre students in award-winning playwright Mia Chung's magic realist drama about 2 North Korean sisters escaping to America. A *Washingtonian* review says it "dazzles and repels, revealing the ugliness buried in both very different cultures." 7:30 p.m. (Thurs.) 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), Lydia Mendelsohn Theatre. Tickets \$24-\$30 (students, \$12) in advance at the Michigan League Box Office or at smtd.umich.edu, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 764-2538.

★"Friendship Celebration": International Neighbors. All area women invited to the 2nd of a year-long series of celebrations of the organization's 60th anniversary. Program TBA. Socializing, refreshments. Child care available for kids 5 & under. 1-2:30 p.m., Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Free. (313) 815-0413.

"Sunlight Photography in the 1860s": Daughters of the American Revolution. Talk by Civil War researchers Bill and Glenna Jo Christen. 1 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. terrikleinschmidt@comcast.net

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Edges": The Penny Seats Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Birth of a Ho' Ass Nation": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Totally Offensive Politically Incorrect Show": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. An eve-

ning of deliberately transgressive comedy by local comics Kent Tucker, KJ Robinson, Jef Brannan, Germaine Gebhart, and Mike Stanley. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m., 212 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets \$10 in advance & at the door. 996-9080.

16 FRIDAY

★“The Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess Symposium”: U-M Library. Feb. 16 & 17. Two days of talks by U-M and visiting scholars on the history and context of *Porgy and Bess*. In conjunction with a performance of the opera on Feb. 17 (see listing). 8 a.m.-6 p.m. (Fri.) & 2-5 p.m. (Sat.), 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 763-8994.

★“Ringing in the Lunar New Year”: U-M School of Music. U-M carillonneur Tiffany Ng premieres U-M visiting composer Carolyn Chen’s *Southern vs. Northern Lion*. The program also includes Lu Pei’s *Sunset * Flute * Drum*, as well as Chinese, Korean, and Tibetan works. Noon, Burton Tower. Free. 615-3204.

40th Annual Lenten Fish Fry: Old St. Patrick’s Church. Every Fri., Feb. 16-Mar. 23. Fried Alaskan pollack, choice of potato or macaroni & cheese, salad bar, and beverage. Desserts available for a nominal additional charge. Be prepared to stand in line, but the food is worth the wait. 4:30-7 p.m., Old St. Pat’s parish hall, 5671 Whitmore Lake Rd. at Northfield Church (3 miles north of Ann Arbor). \$9.50 (seniors, \$8; children 6-11, \$6; children 5 & under, free). 662-8141.

Lenten Fish Dinner: St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church. Every Fri., Feb. 16-Mar. 23. Hand-battered fried cod, baked tilapia, mac & cheese, sautéed green beans, roasted red potatoes, French fries, salad bar, rolls with butter, and coffee & tea. Fish sticks and grilled cheese for kids. Soda, desserts, and tomato parmesan soup available. 4:30-7 p.m., St. Francis Parish Activities Center, 2250 E. Stadium. \$10 (seniors age 62 & over, \$9; kids, \$6). 769-2550, ext. 0.

★Chico MacMurtrie: UMMA/U-M School of Art & Design. This internationally renowned artist discusses his new project, *Border Crossers*, a collection of large-scale robotic sculptures that will eventually be transported and deployed at the U.S.-Mexico border. Preceded at 4:30 p.m. on the UMMA front lawn by a demo of a robot and autonomous vehicle made by U-M students. 5:30 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 668-8463.

“Wine & Cheese Pairing”: Zingerman’s Creamery. Zingerman’s cheesemakers discuss and offer taste samples of several pairings of cheese-friendly wines with artisan cheeses. Bread and additional accompaniments provided. 6-8 p.m., Zingerman’s Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$35. Reservations required. 929-0500.

★Mark Webster Reading Series: U-M English Department. Readings by 2 U-M creative writing grad students, including fiction writer Laura Preston and poet Lea Xue. 7 p.m., UMMA Auditorium, 525 S. State. Free. 764-0395.

★Jeff Kass: Literati Bookstore. This veteran local poet and Pioneer High English teacher reads from and discusses *Takedown*, his debut novel set in Ann Arbor. When a grad student dies in a fire, the police officer investigating his death uncovers a string of related murders that expose the dark side of education reform. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington Free. 585-5567.

★Alejandro Acierto: U-M School of Music. Performance by this contrabass clarinetist, an MSU artist-in-residence. 7 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Davis Technology Studio, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

★“What Your Clutter Is Trying to Tell You”: Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. All invited to discuss lifestyle coach Kerri Richardson’s new book. Hosted by Crazy Wisdom staff member Deb Flint. 7:30-9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free. 665-2757.

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761-7435.

★Formosa Quartet: EMU Department of Music. This string quartet, winner of the 2006 Amadeus Prize, concludes a week-long EMU residency with a performance of Schubert’s String Quartet No. 12 in C minor (*Quartettsatz*), Dvorak’s American Quartet No. 12 in F Major, and Beethoven’s Quartet No. 3. 7:30-9:30 p.m., EMU Honors College, 511 W. Forest, Ypsilanti. Free. 487-4380.

★Scott St. John: U-M School of Music. This Canadian violinist is joined by U-M music professors in Dvorak’s Piano Quintet and Brahms’ String Quintet in G Major. With pianist Katherine Collier, violinist Yizhak Schotten, cellist Anthony Elliott, and violinists Stephen Shipps and Andrew Jennings. 8

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor Art Center, 117 W. Liberty. *Art Now: Drawing* (Jan. 19-Feb. 10). 4th annual juried exhibit of works by U.S. artists, which this year highlights traditional drawing processes and pieces that cross disciplines using drawing as a foundation. Reception Feb. 16, 6-9 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. 994-8004.

Ann Arbor District Library, Malletts Creek (3090 E. Eisenhower). *Resettlement Through the Eyes of Refugees* (Feb. 1-Mar. 15). Twenty-six photos with narratives by refugees from Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, Sudan, and Iran. Part of Jewish Family Services’ “Photovoice” project, which encourages members of marginalized communities to record their experiences. Mon. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Tues.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. noon-6 p.m. 327-4555.

Concordia University Kreft Center for the Arts, 4090 Geddes. *Between the Regions* (Jan. 31-Feb. 25). Paintings, graphite & ink drawings, and photographs by University of Nebraska-Omaha art professor Barbara Simcoe, winner of the 2017 Kreft Juried Exhibition. Reception Feb. 17, 7-9 p.m. Tues.-Fri. noon-4 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 1-5 p.m. 995-7389.

EMU Ford Gallery, Ford Hall, E. Cross between Welch Hall and Boone Hall, Ypsilanti. *Annual Undergraduate Student Art Exhibition* (Feb. 7-Mar. 7). Works in various media by EMU art students. Reception Feb. 13, 4:30-6:30 p.m. Mon. & Thurs. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Tues. & Wed. 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. 487-1268.

p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615-3204.

The Juggernaut Jug Band: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Traditional jug band music by this acclaimed quartet from Louisville. A mixture of classic jazz, ragtime, and blues, jug band music is a swaggering party music, full of high spirits and sexual humor, performed by a modified string band that includes kazoos and other wind instruments, washboard, and, of course, a stoneware jug. The band’s latest CD, *You Mean We Get Paid for This?*, ranges from the Mississippi Sheiks’ blues standard “Sittin’ on Top of the World” to Khachaturian’s “Sabre Dance.” Desserts & coffee available. 8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. \$15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665-8558.

“Improv: Draw Duo/Draw Trio”: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. Feb. 16 & 23. Performance by a guest improv troupe TBA. Followed by performances by members of the League of Pointless Improvisers, in groups assigned by the audience, and “water form,” a long-form style of improv developed by Pointless. 8 & 10 p.m., Pointless, 3014 Packard. Tickets \$15 (8 p.m.) & \$12 (10 p.m.) in advance at pointlessbrew.com & at the door. (989) 455-4484.

“Million Dollar Quartet”: The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Or”: Kickshaw Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Flint”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Constellations”: Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Edges”: The Penny Seats Theatre Company. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“The Last Days of Judas Iscariot”: U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“You for Me for You”: U-M Theatre Department. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Kira Soltanovich: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. Feb. 16 & 17. This hyperanimated Ukraine-born, San Francisco-bred comic, a former regular on the Oxygen channel’s *Girls Behaving Badly*, specializes in loopy, absurdist autobiographical fictions that include a lot of social and cultural satire. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. \$15 reserved seating in advance, \$17 general admission at the door. 996-9080.

“Valentine’s Day Comedy”: Global Renourish Organization Fundraiser. Stand-up comedy by Detroit comic Harry Artin, who has been on *Last Comic Standing*. Snacks. 8:30 p.m., Common Cup, 1511 Washtenaw. Donation. 327-6914.

17 SATURDAY

★“Don’t Compromise Your Calling”: Ann Arbor Aglow Lighthouse. Talk by club member Hortense Howard. Aglow is an international Christian organization. Refreshments. 9:30 a.m.-noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. (248) 437-9277.

Gallery 55+, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Christy Klim & Al Schrader (Feb. 1-Apr. 27). Mixed-media works by Klim and paintings by Schrader, both local artists. Reception and artists’ talk Feb. 11, 4 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. 998-9353.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Cathy Barry (Feb. 6-Mar. 2). Paintings by this local artist reflecting her ongoing concerns about the fragility of the ecosystem. Reception Feb. 13, 5-7 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769-2999.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Black History Month* (Feb. 2-28). Works by area African American artists. Thurs.-Sat. 3-8 p.m. 480-2787.

U-M Clark Library, Harlan Hatcher Graduate Library, eighth floor. *Mr. Vignaud’s Maps: Unraveling a Cartographic Mystery from the Golden Age of Dutch Cartography* (Feb. 1-Apr. 13). Display of map fragments from the collection of early 20th century American diplomat Henry Vignaud, an avid collector of 17th century atlases. Open daily. See lib.umich.edu/clark-library for hours. 936-2314.

U-M Duderstadt Center Gallery, 2281 Bonisteel. Ruth Gruber, *Photojournalist* (Feb. 7-Mar. 12). Retrospective of this American journalist whose career highlights include being the 1st Western journalist to visit a Soviet gulag, covering the arrival of Exodus 1947 in Palestine, and reporting on the rescue of Jews in Ethiopia in the mid-1980s. Reception Feb. 7, 6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. noon-6 p.m. 763-3266.

★“Envisioning Current and Needed New Approaches to Public Safety”: Public Citizens of Washtenaw. All invited to join a discussion, led by local activists, on problems with law enforcement recruitment, training, and pay structures. Refreshments. The program begins with coffee & socializing. 9:45 a.m.-noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 484-1628.

32nd Annual Winter Fleece Fair: Spinner’s Flock. A huge array of Michigan-grown fibers for spinning and felting and handspun yarns. Also, supplies for spinning, weaving, knitting, and felting. Members offer demos throughout the day. Door prize. 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Beach Middle School, 445 Mayer, Chelsea. Free admission. spinnersflock.com, 433-9089, 769-1657.

48th Annual Train Show and Sale: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club. Feb. 17 & 18. The Midwest’s largest model railroad flea market draws model railroaders, collectors, and train buffs from all over to display, trade, and sell model railroad equipment and memorabilia. Also, a kids’ zone, displays of model train operating layouts, and a raffle. Concessions. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. (Sat.) & 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Sun.), Saline Middle School, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. \$6 (kids age 9 & under, free with a paid adult). 426-0829.

★Death Café. All invited to join a frank conversation about death led by participants. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilyne Rush and Diana Cramer. Tea & cake served. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395-9660.

★“Learn Calligraphy: Introduction to Versals and the Decorated Letter”: Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to learn to do calligraphy using an ornamental capitalized script found in medieval manuscripts. Materials provided. 2-4 p.m., AADL Westgate Branch. Free. 327-8301.

★Gratitude Steel Band: Ann Arbor District Library. Live reggae music by this local band. 2-3 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327-4555.

★Calvary Community Game Night: Calvary United Methodist Church. All invited to play board games. Bring your own game if you wish, or use one provided. Pizza. 5:30 p.m., Calvary UMC, 1415 Miller. Free. a2calvary.org, 769-0869.

“Trivia with Cats”: Tiny Lions Lounge and Adoption Center. All age 18 & older invited to play trivia and cuddle with adoptable cats. Drinks & popcorn. Admission includes 2 beer and wine tickets (age 21 & over only). Bring your own nonalcoholic beverages, if you wish. 7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7:15 p.m.), Tiny Lions, 5245 Jackson Rd. (ste. A1). \$15. Preregistration available at tinylions.org/trivia. 661-3575.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Peter Baker calls to music by the Time Travelers. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-soled shoes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. 7:30-10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. \$10 (members, \$7; students, \$5). 476-4650.

galleries

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library Gallery, Room 100 (enter from the Diag). *Science as Art* (Feb. 5-11). Works in various media by U-M undergrads that express a scientific principle, concept, idea, process, or structure. Award ceremony for winning submissions Feb. 9, 2-4 p.m. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. 936-2311.

U-M Residential College Art Gallery, 701 East University. *Concatenation* (Jan. 12-Feb. 15). Reception Feb. 15, 4-6 p.m. Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. 762-0032.

U-M Stamps Gallery, 201 S. Division. *Celebrate People’s History* (Jan. 19-Feb. 25). Collection of posters from social justice movements around the world. Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Thu. & Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.) 368-1095.

U-M Stamps Gallery, 201 S. Division. *Suzy Lake* (Jan. 19-Feb. 25). Retrospective of this Detroit-born pioneer of the feminist art movement. Photographs from 2 major works from the last decade: *Performing an Archive* (2013), which chronicles Detroit’s influences on Lake’s artistic development, and *Extended Breathing*, a new collection of photographs dealing with mortality and bodily boundaries. Reception Jan. 19, 6-8 p.m. Tues.-Sun. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (Thu. & Fri. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.) 368-1095.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Recent Places and Themes* (Feb. 6-Mar. 17). Paintings and 3-D mixed-media works by Lynda Cole, influenced by her recent trip to Antarctica. Reception Feb. 9, 7 p.m. Tues.-Thurs. noon-6 p.m. Fri. & Sat. noon-9 p.m., Sun. noon-5 p.m. 761-2287.

“The Gershwin’s Porgy and Bess”: University Musical Society. Jerry Blackstone directs the U-M symphony orchestra, the Our Own Thing Chorale, and professional opera singers in a production of the renowned 1935 opera about the complex romantic relationship between disabled beggar Porgy and Bess, a “kept woman.” Tonight marks the first performance of the scholarly edition of the opera. Favorites in the score include “I Got Plenty o’ Nuttin’,” “My Man’s Gone Now,” “Summertime,” and “It Ain’t Necessarily So.” Stars Morris Robinson and Talise Trevigne. With Norman Garrett, Chauncey Packer, Janai Brugger, Reginald Smith, Jr., Karen Slack, and Rehanna Thelwell. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a talk with U-M Afroamerican studies professor Naomi André and opera editor Jessica Getman. On Feb. 18 at 2 p.m., a post-performance discussion with the Porgy and Bess Symposium planning committee at the U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery. 7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets \$14-\$80 in advance at ums.org, by phone, and (if available) at the door. 764-2538.

“The Love Hangover”: Stony Lake Brewing Acoustic Routes Concert. Double bill featuring real-life couples exploring different manifestations of love. Plain Jane Glory is the Muskegon husband-and-wife bluegrass-flavored Americana duo Michael and Laura Boxer. Olivia Millerschin, a young ethereal-voiced Detroit pop-folk singer-songwriter acclaimed for her catchy melodies and smart, earnest lyrics, is joined by trombonist-singer James Pyne. 8 p.m., Stony Lake Brewing, 447 E. Michigan Ave., Saline. \$15 at the door. 316-7919.

“Million Dollar Quartet”: The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

“Flint”: Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

“Constellations”: Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“Or”: Kickshaw Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“The Last Days of Judas Iscariot”: U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

“You for Me for You”: U-M Theatre Department. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Kira Soltanovich: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

18 SUNDAY

“Brewing Methods”: Zingerman’s Coffee Company. Zingerman’s Coffee staff demonstrate and discuss 6-8 different ways to brew coffee, from filter drip to syphon pot. Noon-2 p.m., Zingerman’s Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$30. Reservations required. 929-6060.

★“Chessastic!”: Ann Arbor District Library. All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. 1-4 p.m., AADL Traverwood. Free. 327-8301.

★“Crocheted Beaded Bracelets”: Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for teens & adults led by local crafter Beth Battey. Previous crochet experience required. Materials provided. 2-5 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch. Free. 327-8301.

fiction

Thisbe Nissen

Story within the story

Apparently, it took fourteen years for Thisbe Nissen to write her new novel, *Our Lady of the Prairie*. Her story of the process is that she had to cut an 800-page manuscript down to 350. This makes it sound as if this novel should be slow and ponderous. But that is not the case at all! *Our Lady of the Prairie* moves rapidly through the lives of its characters, some of whom suffer horribly or needlessly, but all of whom have an extraordinary system of support that keeps them going through their pain—almost all the way to joy.

Nissen moved from New York City to the Midwest to go to the famous Iowa Writers' Workshop. She stayed in Iowa City for many years, learning the quirks of its people and writing her first books, before moving to Michigan to take a job at Western Michigan University. She sees people with the eyes of an outsider who loves them. I particularly enjoyed all the lapsed Amish and Mennonites who populate the novel and keep the other characters, the academics and urbanites, connected to things like quilts and fresh vegetables.

In some ways *Our Lady* is an academic satire. Nissen has fun with her protagonist, Phillipa, who has both a lover and a probably-soon-to-be ex-husband. These people—who live under scrutiny but also have enormous amounts of free time to pursue what are supposed to be intellectual passions—provide some laughs, but Nissen's generosity also brings us into their lives and makes us sympathize. Phillipa's sick daughter finds a way to survive with young lapsed Amish farmers. All of them worry enormously about the 2004 presidential election, convinced that John Kerry's loss is the beginning of the end. That is actually part of the humor of the book; that election seems almost quaint now, and their reactions overblown.



Nissen handles all of this well, controlling the history and the emotional tone even as she takes us from laughter to tears and partway back. But right in the middle of the book she does something different, something that changes everything: she follows Phillipa's overwrought imagination into her invented backstory of her mother-in-law's life. Suddenly, but seamlessly, we have left Iowa and are in France during World War II. It is always absolutely clear that this story within the story is all in the character's imagination, yet it makes complete sense in its fantasy. After sixty pages, Nissen takes us out of the historical moment and back to the Iowa of her fiction.

It all happens so easily that I didn't even realize the enormous journey Nissen had taken me on. It also prepares us for Phillipa's flights of fantasy near the end, where she imagines the perfect happy ending. For a moment all the dead come back to life and do what they can to prop up their children and grandchildren. Nissen brings us back to the reality of her characters—even as she almost subliminally reminds us that they, too, are imagined.

Thisbe Nissen reads from *Our Lady of the Prairie* at Literati Bookstore on Tuesday, February 20.

—Keith Taylor

"Constellations": Theatre Nova. See 1 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"The Last Days of Judas Iscariot": U-M Musical Theatre Department. See 15 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"You for Me for You": U-M Theatre Department. See 15 Thursday, 2 p.m.

"Small Appetites: A History of Children's Food": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor/Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by MSU history professor Helen Zoe Veit. 3–5 p.m., AADL Mallett Creek. Free. 327–8301.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday, 3 p.m.

"Best of Friends": Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra. Adam Ricciuto directs this volunteer community orchestra, who today are joined by soloist John Dorsey, an EMU percussion professor. Program: Beethoven's *Coriolan Overture* and Symphony No. 7 in A Major, Britten's *Simple Symphony*, and Mayzumi's Concertino for Xylophone. 3:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg, Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. \$12 (seniors age 65 & over, students with ID, and kids under age 12, \$6; family, \$30, WCC students with ID, free) in advance at ypsilantisymphony.org and at the door. 507–1451.

Project 206: Kerrytown Concert House. This Ypsilanti-based jazz/fusion/electronica sextet has just released its 1st album, *Struggle Is Joy*. Led by synth player Galen Bundy, the group includes trumpeter Ben Wolkins, saxophonist David Mirarchi, bassist Johannes Ronquillo, and drummers Travis Auckerman and Jonathan Taylor. 4 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. [Kerrytownconcerthouse.com](http://kerrytownconcerthouse.com), 769–2999.

"Or?": Kickshaw Theatre. See 15 Thursday, 4 p.m.

"Fireside Fun": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All invited to sit around an indoor campfire, sip

hot drinks, and swap stories. If you like, bring blankets, board games, and reusable mugs. Hot cocoa and tea provided. 6:30–8 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997–1553.

A2 Dhoom: Michigan Mazaa. Bollywood-fusion dance competition featuring 8 collegiate teams from around the country. Proceeds benefit The Hope Project, a Michigan-based nonprofit organization working to raise awareness of human trafficking and ameliorate its effects. 7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets TBA at michiganmazaa.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone: (800) 745–3000.

***"Love and Information":** U-M Residential College Drama Concentration. U-M drama students in Kate Mendeloff's play production seminar direct and perform renowned English playwright Caryl Churchill's acclaimed 2012 play about relationships in the digital age presented as an evolving mosaic of more than 50 fragmented and superficially unconnected scenes. 7 p.m., Keene Theatre, East Quad, 701 East University. Free. 647–4354.

19 MONDAY

***"Abstract Watercolor Waves":** Ann Arbor District Library. Craft project for adults & teens in grade 6 & up. Material and guidance provided. 3–5 p.m., AADL Mallett Creek. Free. 327–8301.

"Seollal": Miss Kim. Buffet-style dinner to celebrate the Korean New Year. Also, Miss Kim chef JiHye Kim presents a hands-on dumpling-making demo. 6–9 p.m., Miss Kim, 415 N. 5th Ave. \$80 (includes materials). 275–0099.

***Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. 6:45–9 p.m., Pittsfield Village Community Bldg., 2220 Pittsfield Blvd. (park on the

street, or in the south lot). Free to visitors (annual dues for those who join). 994–4385.

***Debra Golden: Ann Arbor Women Artists.** This WCC art instructor and painter discusses her work. 7 p.m., AAWA Headquarters, 4484 Jackson Rd. (ste. 100). Free. annarborwomenartists@gmail.com

***"Pesticides & Pollinators":** Michigan Botanical Club. MSU entomology researcher Meghan Milbrath discusses neonicotinoids, a class of pesticides that affects insects' central nervous system. 7:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647–7600.

***Danielle Belen: U-M School of Music.** This U-M violin professor performs works by Brahms, Dillon, and Chausson. With pianist Hye Jin Cho. 7:30 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Britton Recital Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.

***University Choir: U-M School of Music.** Jabbie Glass and Shohei Kobayashi conduct this ensemble of music majors in Howells' "A Hymn for Saint Cecilia," Finzi's 7 Pastoral Songs, Barnum's "Afternoon on a Hill," Barber's "Sure on this shining night," Kodaly's "Esti dal," Stanford's Nunc Dimittis in G Major, Estevez's "Mata del anima sola," Holmes's "Windham," Monteverdi's "Dara la notte," Brahms's "Der Abend," MacMillan's "O Radiant Dawn," Thompson's "Last Words of David," and Rudo's arrangement of "Yonder come day." 8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 615–3204.

***Abbie Conant: U-M School of Music.** Performance by this internationally known trombonist whose 1980 audition for the Munich Philharmonic Orchestra, which was conducted behind a screen for anonymity, inspired Malcolm Gladwell's book *Blink*. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615–3204.

20 TUESDAY

***Winter Bingo:** Ann Arbor District Library. Prizes. 2–3:30 p.m., AADL Westgate. Free. 327–8301.

***"State Repression and Collective Action in Egypt":** U-M Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies. Talk by WCED postdoc Jean Lachapelle. 4–5:30 p.m., 555 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.

***"Critical Needs in Planning the 'Good City':** U-M College of Literature, Science, and the Arts. Talk by U-M urban planning professor June Manning Thomas. Reception follows. 4 p.m., Rackham Amphitheatre. Free. 764–6330.

***"Free Speech and the Necessity of Discomfort":** U-M Wallace House. Talk by *New York Times* columnist Bret Stephens. 4–5:30 p.m., Mendelssohn Theatre. Free. 998–7666.

"Public Speaking: Overcoming Obstacles": American Business Women's Association. Talk by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan registered nurse and case manager Krista Gilbert. The program begins with networking and dinner. 6 p.m., Quarter Bistro, 300 S. Maple. \$21 in advance by noon on Feb. 15 at abwa-mia.org/reform.html. mortime@umich.edu

***"Herbs, Homeopathy and Integrative Medicine Meets Conventional Medicine":** People's Food Co-op. Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt. 7 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required by phone or email. outreach@peoplesfood.coop. 994–4589.

***"West African Art and Music in Yaa Gyasi's Homegoing":** Ann Arbor District Library. Talk by EMU urban education doctoral student Victoria Shields, who uses music and art from the Detroit Institute of Art to demonstrate West African influences on American popular music. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.

***"Sci-Fi Jr. High: Crash Landing":** Nicola's Books. Farmington middle grade writer Scott Seegert and Farmington illustrator John Martin discuss their new book set at a junior high on a floating space station filled with alien kids from across the universe. Signing. 7 p.m., Nicola's, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.

***Thisbe Nissen: Literati Bookstore.** See review, above. This WSU English professor reads from and discusses *Our Lady of the Prairie*, her new novel about an Iowa professor who has an affair while teaching in Ohio for a semester, and returns home to find her life in disarray. Signing. 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.

***Polka Jam Session.** All accordion players and other musicians invited to play polkas and waltzes and other ethnic and old-time music. 7–9 p.m., American Legion Hall, 44 Wabash St. (south off Main), Milan. Free. 529–3903.

***Michigan Arab Orchestra Takht Ensemble:** U-M School of Music. This area chamber ensemble gives a lecture-demo on contemporary Arab music, aka tarab. 7 p.m., U-M Moore Bldg. Watkins Lecture Hall, 1100 Baits. Free. 615–3204.

***"A Deep Discussion of Ann Arbor's Dioxane Plume":** Huron Valley Sierra Club. Talk by a panel of experts in water quality, testing, and toxicity. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 665–0248.

***"No-No Boy: Songs of Asian-American History, Songs of Asian-American Resistance":** U-M School of Music. Singer-songwriter Julian Saporti and singer Erin Ayoma, both Brown University grad students, perform Saporti's works that draw on his experiences growing up Vietnamese American in Tennessee. They also tell stories and show films that explore Asian American experiences. 7:30 p.m., 2435 North Quad, 105 S. State. Free. 615–3204.

***"The Price is Right LIVE":** Michigan Theater. Sold out. 7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Free tickets at michtheater.com & ticketmaster.com. 800–745–3000.

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. See 6 Tuesday. Today's theme is "Secrets." 7:30 p.m.

***Orpheus Singers:** U-M School of Music. This student choir performs Buxtehude's *Membra Jesu Nostri* and Bach's *St. John Passion* (Part I). Accompanied by an orchestra. 8 p.m., U-M Walgreen Center Stamps Auditorium, 1226 Murfin. Free. 615–3204.

***"Schubert's Winterreise":** Kerrytown Concert House. Baritone Thomas Meglioranza performs Schubert's beloved song cycle, a setting of somber poems about lost love by German poet Wilhelm Müller. "You have to be haunted by this cycle to be able to sing it," says German singer Elena Gerhardt. David Breitman accompanies on a reproduction of a 19th century piano. 8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. kerrytownconcerthouse.com, 769–2999.

21 WEDNESDAY

***"Adolescent Sexual Health":** AAUW-Ann Arbor. Talk by Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health representatives Taryn Gal and Brittany Batell. Lunch available (\$15, reservations required). 11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. (844) 973–6287.

***"Siege Mentalities and Borderland Personalities: The Construction of National Identity in German Königsberg and Soviet Kaliningrad":** U-M Center for Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies Noon Lecture. Talk by Boston College history professor Nicole Eaton. Bring a bag lunch, if you like. Noon–1:30 p.m., 555 Weiser, 500 Church. Free. 764–0351.

***"Flint":** Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

***"Cabin Fever Robotics":** Michigan Robot Club. All invited to discuss wintertime robot making. Also, a show-and-tell; nonmembers invited to bring their own creations to show. 6–8:30 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. Free. mirobotclub.com

***"Smell and Tell: Brian Eno":** Ann Arbor District Library. Local flavor and fragrance expert Michelle Krell Kydd, creator of the award-winning smell and taste blog Glass Petal Smoke, discusses, with samples, the scents that inspire ambient music pioneer Brian Eno. 6–8:45 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th-floor meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.

***"Sashiko Embroidery":** Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to learn how to do this traditional Japanese embroidery style. Materials provided. 6:30–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Free. 327–8301.

***"Socially Responsible Businesses: How Tea, Ice Cream, and Vegetables Do Good":** Ann Arbor District Library. Panel discussion with owners of the local businesses Go! Ice Cream, Detroit Filling Station, and Arbor Teas. Moderated by GreenLight Fund Detroit executive director Rishi Moudgil. 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Free. 327–4555.

***"Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers":** Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss *The Sharper Your Knife, The Less You Cry*, Kathleen Flinn's memoir about her struggles at the venerable Paris cooking school Le Cordon Bleu, where she enrolled after losing her corporate job in the U.S. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.

***"Birding Puget Sound and Mt. Rainier":** Washtenaw Audubon Society. Pioneer HS junior Ben Hack gives a talk on his experiences birding in the Puget Sound region with other young birders at Camp Cascades, a summer youth program that offers a survey of regional flora and fauna. 7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking.

Poetry Salon: One Pause Poetry. Members read and discuss poems around the theme of dogs (Feb. 21). Followed by collaborative writing games and exercises. Attendees invited to read their poems. Snacks & socializing. 8–10 p.m., Argus Farm Stop greenhouse, 325 W. Liberty. \$5 suggested donation. onepausepoetry.org, 707–1284.

kids 12 & under

Key to Locations

AADL: Ann Arbor District Library 327-8301. Events (all free) offered at **Downtown** (343 S. Fifth Ave.), **Westgate** (Westgate shopping center), **Traverwood** (3333 Traverwood), **Malletts Creek** (3090 E. Eisenhower), and **Pittsfield** (2359 Oak Valley) branches.

AAHOM: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, 220 E. Ann. 995-9439. All events free (except as noted) with regular admission: \$12 (members & kids under age 2, free).

Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. 369-4345. Events free.

HSHV: Humane Society of Huron Valley, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd. Events also hosted at **Tiny Lions Lounge & Adoption Center** (5245 Jackson, ste. A1). hshv.org, 661-3575.

Literati Bookstore, 124 E. Washington. 585-5567. Events free.

LSNC: Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver. 997-1553.

UMMA: U-M Museum of Art, 515 S. State. 764-0395. Events free.

WCPARC: Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. 971-6337.

Every Mon. (10:30-11:30 a.m.): "Playgroups for Babies": AADL Downtown. Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. Note: Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10-11 a.m. & Thurs. 6:30-7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.-noon), Westgate (Thurs. 2-3 p.m.), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30-11 a.m.).

Every Tues. (9:30 a.m.) & Sat. (10:30 a.m.): "The Little Scientist Club": AAHOM. Crafts, science-themed stories, and hands-on activities for young kids, accompanied by a parent. Geared toward kids ages 3-6; older siblings welcome.

Every Tues. & Wed. (10-10:30 a.m. Tues. & 11-11:30 a.m. Wed.): Preschool Storytimes: AADL Downtown. Stories and songs for kids ages 2-5 (accompanied by an adult). Note: These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues. 11-11:30 a.m., Wed. 6-6:30 p.m., & Thurs. 10-10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10-10:30 a.m.), Pittsfield (Thurs. 7-7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10-10:30 a.m.), and Westgate (Mon. 11-11:30 a.m., Wed. 1-1:30 p.m., & Fri. 10-10:30 a.m.) branches.

Every Wed. & Sun. except Feb. 18 (10-11 a.m.): "Nature Storytime": LSNC. All kids ages 1-5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited for a program of stories and nature-based activities on different themes. Feb. 7 & 11: "The Lorax." Feb. 14: "Bee & Me." Feb. 21 & 25: "Big Earth, Little Me." Feb. 28: "We Are Extremely Very Good Recyclers."

Every Thurs. "Little Paws Story Time": HSHV. Stories, crafts, finger plays, and interaction with adoptable cats. Also, a chance to make a toy or treat for the animals. For kids ages 2-5, accompanied by an adult. \$5 per child (babies under age 1, free). Space limited; preregistration recommended at hshv.org/littlepaws.

Every Sat.: Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble. Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. 11 a.m., 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973-0846.

Every Sat.: Story Time: Bookbound. Linda Zimmer reads seasonal stories for kids age 6 & under. 11 a.m., Bookbound, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369-4345.

Every Sun. (1-2 p.m.): "Drawing for Kids": AADL. Ann Arbor Art Center artists host a different directed drawing activity each week for kids in grades 1-5. 1-2 p.m., AADL Downtown 4th-floor meeting rm. (Feb. 4, 11, & 18); AADL Malletts Creek (Feb. 25).

Every Sun. (2-3:30 p.m.): "Minecraft Workshop": AADL Downtown Training Center. All kids in grades 3-8 invited to try out this popular computer game that involves constructing things with virtual blocks to work as a team to build and landscape, solve puzzles,

battle monsters, and create a new virtual world. New & experienced players welcome.

Feb. 2 & 16 (5-9 p.m.): "Pets & Pajamas Movie Night": HSHV. Kids ages 5-11 invited to watch movies, including the animated films *Wreck It Ralph* (Feb. 2) and *Ratatouille* (Feb. 16). Also, a chance to interact with adoptable pets. Pizza dinner. Wear pajamas and bring a sleeping bag and pillow. \$35 (\$15 for each additional sibling). Preregistration required at hshv.org.

Feb. 3 (10 a.m.-noon): "Sweet Things": Matthaei. Kids, accompanied by a parent, make a chocolate treat flavored with natural ingredients. Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. \$10 per kid. Preregistration recommended. 657-7600.

Feb. 3 (10:30 & 11:30 a.m.): "Winter Fireside Story Time": WCPARC. For kids ages 3-8, accompanied by an adult. Refreshments. Independence Lake County Park, 3200 Jennings, Dexter. Free. 449-4437, ext. 201.

Feb. 3 & 4 (1 & 3 p.m.): "Yo-Yo Master Zeemo": AAHOM. Performance by this local yo-yo whiz, who also uses other spinning toys such as Hula-Hoops and tops in his routine.

Feb. 3 (2-2:30 p.m.): "Fabulous Folktales Storytime": AADL Downtown. AADL librarians share West African folktales for kids in preK-grade 3.

Feb. 4 (10 a.m.-1 p.m.): "Superb-Owl Sunday": LSNC. Family-friendly carnival-style event with activities that include making toys for the center's raptors, dissecting an owl pellet, selfies with one of the resident owls, and more. Preregistration required. \$5 per person.

Feb. 4 (1-1:40 p.m.): "Dancing Babies": AADL Traverwood. First Steps Washtenaw instructor Monica Higman leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a program of music and movement.

Feb. 4 (2-3 p.m.) & Feb. 15 (10-11 a.m.): "Guided Meditation for Kids": AADL Pittsfield (Feb. 4) & Westgate (Feb. 15). Local massage therapist and meditation leader Amy Tarrant leads kids in grades 1-5 (with or without a parent) in a series of guided meditations. At the end of the session, kids have a chance to process the experience through artistic expression. Bring a blanket or pillow, if you like.

Feb. 4 (2-2:45 p.m.): "Banjo Betsy Beckerman & the Uke Party": AADL Westgate. All kids in grades preK-3 invited to clap and sing-along with local musician Betsy Beckerman and the Uke Party Band. The program blends familiar songs with a couple of related stories told by AADL storytellers.

Feb. 8 (5:30-6:30 p.m.): "Just for Kids: Explore the World of Sweets for Your Valentine": Zingerman's Next Door. Staffers discuss candymakers and some of their favorite food pairings with candy. Tastings for kids. Parents welcome to lurk in the background for free. Zingerman's Next Door (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. \$15 per kid. 663-3354.

Feb. 8 (6 p.m.): "Kids in the Kitchen": AAHOM. Members of the Junior League of Ann Arbor help kids in grades K-4, accompanied by an adult, make a nutritious snack and do science experiments focused on the heart. \$15 (members, \$10). Reservations required by Feb. 5.

Feb. 9 & 23 (7:30 p.m.): "Family Mew-Vie Night": Tiny Lions. Screening of family-friendly animated movies, including *Toy Story* (Feb. 9) and *Despicable Me* (Feb. 23), and snuggles with adoptable cats. Popcorn, juice, and water. Kids must be accompanied by an adult (at least 1 for every 3 kids). Bring pillows, sleeping bags, and blankets, if you wish. This event usually sells out. \$10 in advance at tinylions.org/mewvienights.

Feb. 10 (9 a.m.-4 p.m.): Annual Chess Tournament: Thurston Elementary School PTO Fundraiser. Low-key tournament for kids in grades K-8. 9 a.m.-4 p.m., Thurston, 2300 Prairie. \$10-\$22; \$15-\$27 after Feb. 2. Space limited; preregistration required at ThurstonChess.com. sweiner72@me.com, 994-1970.

Feb. 10 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) & 11 (noon-4 p.m.): "Critters Up Close!": AAHOM. Leslie Science & Nature Center staff show live worms & friends. Also, animal-oriented hands-on activities. Note: On Saturday, a midday "Animal Naptime" break when the animals get tired.

Feb. 10 (11 a.m.-1 p.m.): "Family Art Studio: Red Circle": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of 1980s Japanese graphic design posters that were meant to change Japan's global image. Followed by an art activity led by local artist Sophie Grillet. For families with kids age 6 & up. Preregistration required by emailing umma-program-registration@umich.edu (include date & title of program in the subject line and indicate morning or afternoon session and how many adults & kids are in your group).

Feb. 10 (11 a.m.-noon): "Mo Willems Party!": AADL Westgate. All in grades preK-3 invited for stories and craft activities featuring Elephant and Piggie and other favorite characters by this popular writer of kids books.

Feb. 10 (11:15 a.m.): Storytime: UMMA. A U-M student docent reads a story related to art on display. Followed by a short craft activity. For kids ages 3-6 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. Meet at the UMMA store.

Feb. 10 (1-2 p.m.): "Kids' Coding Hour!": AADL Downtown Training Center. All kids in grades 3-8 invited to build apps in BitsBox, a system that teaches kids to code. More experienced coders can bring their own project in their preferred coding language. Computers provided. No experience necessary.

Feb. 10 (1-4 p.m.): "Splash Day": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. A family-oriented afternoon of pool games and contests. Prizes. Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. \$5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, \$4). 794-6234.

Feb. 10 (2:30-4:30 p.m.): "Buhr Blitz": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. Public skating, with a family-oriented program of games and contests. Prizes. Buhr Park Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. \$6 (youths age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & over, \$5). \$1 discount for Ann Arbor residents. Skate rentals (\$3) available. 794-6234.

Feb. 10 (5-10 p.m.): "Parents Night Out: Animal Engineers": LSNC. Kids in grades K-6 invited to investigate the adaptations that help animals survive in their environments. PB&J or turkey sandwich and a popcorn snack. Activities held outdoors as much as possible, so kids should come dressed for the weather. \$30 (members, \$25) per child. Preregistration required by noon on Feb. 7 for dinner.

Feb. 11 (3-3:45 p.m.): "Randy Kaplan": AADL Westgate. An interactive program of old-time blues, vintage jazz, and pop ballads intermixed with comedic storytelling by this nationally renowned singer-guitarist, a U-M grad best known for his "not-JUST-for-kids" CDs. For kids in grades preK-5.

Feb. 12 (10:30-11:15 a.m.): "Sensation Stations": AADL Traverwood. All toddlers ages 18 months-3 years invited to drop in to engage their senses by scooping, pouring, squeezing, and shaking a variety of materials.

Feb. 15 (10 a.m.): "Preschool Hike: How Sweet It Is": WCPARC. Naturalist Shawn Severance leads preschoolers, accompanied by an adult, on a hike to look at maple trees and learn how they can be used to make a sweet treat. County Farm Park Pollinator Garden, 2230 Platt. Preregistration required at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org.

Feb. 15 (1 & 4 p.m.): "Valentine's Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as magical fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea, petits fours, and cookies to kids and their families. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. \$11 (babies age 18 months & younger, free). Preregistration required at crazywisdom.net/fairie-teas.html.

Feb. 16 (1-3 p.m.): "Dinosaur Camp!": AADL Down-

town. Craft activities and themed games for kids in grades K-5.

Feb. 17 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) & 18 (noon-4 p.m.): "Science Fest: Physicspalooza": AAHOM. Physics activities & demos related to motion, inertia, electricity, and other topics.

Feb. 17 (10-10:40 a.m.): "Dancing Babies": AADL Pittsfield. KinderMusik teacher Denise Owens presents a program of music & dance for kids age 5 & under.

Feb. 17 (1-2:30 p.m.): "Bunraku Puppet Making for Kids": AADL Downtown Secret Lab. All kids in grades 3-8 invited to learn about this traditional Japanese puppet theater form and make some giant puppets.

Feb. 17 (6:30 p.m.): Daddy-Daughter Dance: WCPARC. Dancing, crafts, face painting, a balloon drop, refreshments, & more. Meri Lou Murray Rec Center, 2960 Washtenaw. \$20 per couple (\$5 per additional child) in advance at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org. 971-6355, ext. 0.

Feb. 18 (2-4 p.m.): Family Dance: Pittsfield Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for contra and square dancing with live music. Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor-Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), \$12 per family. 761-6172.

Feb. 18 (3 p.m.): "Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live!": Erth Visual & Physical Inc. (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). Australia-based touring production that uses giant puppetry, stilt-walkers, and inflatables to introduce kids to lifelike dinosaurs and other creatures that inhabited prehistoric Australia. Featured animals include the famous Tyrannosaurus Rex and Triceratops, as well as the under-appreciated giant dragonfly Meganeura, which had a 3-foot wingspan. Geared toward kids in grades preK-3. Michigan Theater. Tickets \$25-\$35 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745-3000.

Feb. 19 (10:30-11 a.m.): "Preschool Art Start": AADL Pittsfield. Craft projects for kids aged 2-5, accompanied by an adult. Siblings welcome.

Feb. 19 (2-3 p.m.): "Make Finger Puppets!": AADL Downtown Secret Lab. Craft project for kids in grades K-5.

Feb. 22, 23, & 25: "Under the African Sky": Wild Swan Theater. This award-winning local children's theater presents a series of African folktales. With drumming and other music. Geared toward kids ages 4-10. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available by rearrangement for blind audience members. 10 a.m. (Thurs. & Fri.), 12:30 p.m. (Fri.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets \$12 (seniors age 60 & over and kids, \$9.60); lap passes for kids age 2 & under, \$3) in advance at wildswantheater.org and at the door. 995-0530.

Feb. 24 (10 a.m.-noon): "Junior Naturalist: Michigan Mammals": WCPARC. Nature program for kids ages 7-12. Rolling Hills County Park Lodge, 7660 Stony Creek, Ypsilanti. Preregistration required at parksonline.ewashtenaw.org.

Feb. 24 (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) & 25 (noon-4 p.m.): "Pop-Up Makerspace": AAHOM. All invited to try a hands-on engineering activity. This month's challenge: towers.

Feb. 24 (11 a.m.-noon): "Paper Plate Ocean Creatures": AADL Traverwood. Craft for preschoolers.

Feb. 25 (1-2:30 p.m.): "Lego Connection": AADL Downtown multipurpose rm. Lego open play for kids in grades K-5 accompanied by an adult. Legos supplied.

U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. AABonsaiSociety@gmail.com

★Chris Glomski: Literati Bookstore. This Chicago poet reads from *Lit Up*, his new collection of poems that illuminate "the cracks in our daily lives," along with their "quotidian details." 7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585-5567.

★"Orchestra Night": Ann Arbor Public Schools. Gala concert featuring more than 1,000 student performers in orchestras from Ann Arbor middle and high schools. Highlighted by the high school ensembles' performances of the Finale from Saint-Saëns' Symphony no. 3, Strauss's *Overture to Die Fledermaus*, and Shostakovich's *Festive Overture*. 7 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Free. 994-2252.

"SHEL": Runyonland Productions. Feb. 22 & 23. U-M musical theater majors perform the world premiere of U-M student Noah Kieserman's musical. Based on the life of the late children's poet Shel Silverstein, it's written entirely in Silverstein's style of verse. 7 p.m., Duderstadt Center Video Studio, 2281

Bonisteel. Tickets \$14 (students, \$7) in advance at runyonland.ticketleap.com/shel. (704) 778-2144.

"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof": Fathom Events. Tape-delayed live broadcast of the Young Vic (London) production of Tennessee Williams' Pulitzer Prize-winning 1955 drama about the unraveling of a mendacious southern family. Stars Jack O'Connell & Sienna Miller. 7 p.m., *Quality 16* (3686 Jackson) & Ann Arbor 20 (4100 Carpenter). Tickets \$17 in advance at fathomevents.com/events and at the door. 827-2863 (*Quality 16*) & 973-8424 (Ann Arbor 20).

★"14": U-M Theatre Department. U-M theatre professor José Casas directs U-M theatre students in his new work based on a true story about a smuggler who abandons 30 Mexicans crossing the border, resulting in the death of 14. Cast talkback after the show. Reception follows at the Michigan League Henderson room. 7 p.m., Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Free. 764-5350.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 7 p.m.

22 THURSDAY

★"We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy": U-M Library. All invited to join a discussion, led by health and bioethics experts, of Ta-Nehisi Coates' book about race and Obama's presidency. With emphasis on women's health issues. Noon, 100 U-M Hatcher Grad Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 763-8994.

"Disgraced": PTD Productions. Feb. 22–24, 25, & 28 and Mar. 1–3. Joe York directs local actors in Ayad Akhtar's 2012 Pulitzer Prize-winning comic drama exploring questions of identity and reinvention. A seemingly happy corporate lawyer and his wife invite another biracial couple to dinner, where a friendly conversation escalates into something damaging. Cast: Lisa Coveney, Ryan McGriff, Angelicia Morton, Neel Vaidya, and Brandon Waldenmayer. 8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun. & Wed.), **Riverside Arts Center**, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$18 (students & seniors, \$12; Thurs., pay what you can) in advance at a2tix.com/events/disgraced-ptd-productions & by phone: 483–7345.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Or": Kickshaw Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m. **L.A. Hardy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase.** Feb. 22–24. L.A. comic known for his sardonic stories about everyday life and his biting social commentary. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. 8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 212 S. Fourth Ave. \$10 (Thurs.) & \$13 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, \$12 (Thurs.) & \$15 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.

23 FRIDAY

"Democratization as Exclusion?: Refugee Futures and Holocaust Heritage": U-M Anthropology Department Rappaport Lecture Series. Talk by U-M anthropology professor Damani Partridge. 3–5 p.m., **Rackham Assembly Hall** (4th floor). Free. 764–7274.

Wolverine Classic: Gym America. Feb. 23–25. Nearly 1,000 women gymnasts compete in this national-level competition. Complete schedule available at gymamericagymnastics.com. 5–9 p.m. (Fri.) & 8 a.m.–9 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), **Saline Middle School**, 7190 N. Maple, Saline. Admission \$12 at the door. 971–1667.

Cheese 101": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery retail manager Tessie Ives-Wilson discusses and offers taste samples of the 7 major varieties of cheese. Bread & other accompaniments provided. 6–8 p.m., **Zingerman's Creamery**, 3723 Plaza Dr. \$30. Reservations required. 929–0500.

"SHEL": Runyonland Productions. See 22 Thursday. 7 p.m.

"Dawn Dance Weekend": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Feb. 23–25. A weekend of contra, English, square, and couple dancing to live music. Around 400 people expected to dance or just listen to the many fine musicians. Features caller Rick Mohr with the veteran Boston-area contra band **Latter Day Lizards** and English dance caller Susan Kevra with the northern Pennsylvania trio **Alchemy**. 8 p.m.–midnight (Fri. & Sat.), 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. (Sat.), & 10 a.m.–3:30 p.m. (Sun.), **Concordia University Kreft Center**, 4090 Geddes. \$22 per dance (weekend pass, \$85). 658–8228.

"Cryptic": Neighborhood Theatre Group. Feb. 23–25. Marisa Druley directs the world premiere of local playwright A.M. Dean's comedy about a member of the fictional Huron Valley Cryptozoology Club who is determined to prove monsters exist. Cast: Kylysta Geiger, Mimi Keebler, Lauren Megan McCarthy, Greg Pizzino, Inney Prakash, and Craig VanKempen. 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), **Bona Sera Underground**, 200 W. Michigan, Ypsilanti. Tickets \$10 (students, \$5) ntgcryptic.brownpapertickets.com and at the door. ntgcryptic.org

★Lenten Organ Concert Series: American Guild of Organists. Every Fri., Feb. 23–Mar. 23. Concerts by AGO members and other organists. 12:15–1:15 p.m., **First Congregational Church**, 608 E. William. Free. 604–3205.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Disgraced": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Or": Kickshaw Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Improv: Draw Duo/Draw Trio": Pointless Brewery & Theatre. See 16 Friday. 8 & 10 p.m.

L.A. Hardy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 22 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

24 SATURDAY

★"Screen Printing Demo": Ann Arbor District Library. Modati Studios representatives show adults and teens grade 6 & up how to screen print. Participants print a design to take home, and you can bring old t-shirts or fabric to print as well, if you like. Noon–3 p.m., **AADL Downtown Secret Lab**. Free. 327–8301.

"La Bohème": Fathom Events. Broadcast (Feb. 24) & rebroadcast (Feb. 28) of the Metropolitan Opera production of Puccini's beloved opera about the love between a fatally ill girl and an impoverished poet

in 1830s Paris. Italian, subtitles. The Feb. 28 show is at Ann Arbor 20 only. 12:30 p.m. (Feb. 24) and 1 & 6:30 p.m. (Feb. 28), **Quality 16** (3686 Jackson) & **Ann Arbor 20** (4100 Carpenter). Tickets \$27 in advance at fathomevents.com/events and at the door. 827–2863 (**Quality 16**) & 973–8424 (**Ann Arbor 20**).

★"Rocket League: Full Throttle Soccer": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults and kids in grade 6 & up invited to assemble a 4-person team to play this video game featuring a version of soccer played in high-powered vehicles. 1–4 p.m., **AADL Downtown** 4th-floor meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.

"Tool Zoo": Maker Works. Members lead a tour of the shop and demonstrate some of their tools: a 3-D printer, a pewter casting machine, a laser cutter, a wood engraver, and a plasma steel cutter. Kids must be accompanied by a parent. 4:30 & 5:30 p.m., **Maker Works**, 3765 Plaza Dr. \$5 (family, \$8). Pre-registration required at maker-works.com/classes/tool-zoo-tour. 222–4911.

"22nd Annual Hearts for the Arts": Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra Fundraiser. Champagne reception, formal dinner, and live and silent auctions. 6 p.m., **Barton Hills Country Club**. Tickets \$185 & \$250 in advance at a2so.com/events/hearts-for-the-arts. 994–4801.

Ron White: Live Nation. Veteran Texas stand-up comic who's known for a point of view that's politically incorrect in both the red and the blue states and for a cigar-chomping, scotch-drinking, flamboyantly disreputable onstage persona that masks a razor-sharp wit and unflappably sweet temper. 7 & 10 p.m., **Michigan Theater**. Tickets \$49.75–\$248.75 in advance at ticketmaster.com and all Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.

★"2nd Annual A Cappella City, USA Festival": Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. This showcase of local a cappella vocal groups features performances by 2 college ensembles—the EMU Evergreen, and the U-M Maize Mirchi—along with the Ann Arbor Women's Chamber Chorus, the Stark Raving MADrigal Singers, and ensembles from the Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines and the Huron Valley Harmonizers. 7:30 p.m., **Genesis of Ann Arbor**, 2309 Packard. Free. 796–7467.

"31st Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. Feb. 24 & 25 (different programs). Performances for adults (Sat.) & families (Sun.) by 3 top storytellers from around the state. Headliner is **Jeff Doyle**, a nationally known Brighton storyteller who produces the annual Howell Opera House Scary Story Festival in October. Also, Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild members **Barbara Schutzgruber**, **Patti Smith**, **Jane Fink**, and **Steve Daut**, who also serves as emcee. 7:30 p.m. (Sat.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), **The Ark**, 316 S. Main. Tickets \$20 (Sat.) & \$10 (Sun. family concert) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & tearck.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.

17th Annual "A Funky Good Time" Rent Party: Vincent York's Jazzistry. This fundraiser for this award-winning local K–12 jazz history program features the Sun Messengers, a popular and versatile 8-piece Detroit ensemble that plays everything from Latin and African dance music to blues and rock, plus music by **Vincent York** (sax) and Ann Arbor's new Jazz All-Stars featuring **Josef Deas** (bass), **Jesse Kramer** (drums), **Michael Malis** (piano) and **Ingrid Racine** (trumpet). Dancing, hors d'oeuvres, cash bar. 7:30–10:30 p.m., **EMU Student Center Grand Ballroom**, 900 Oakwood, Ypsilanti. \$45 in advance, \$50 at the door, or for \$400 host a table for ten. Ticket information: (734) 761–6024, jazzistry.org.

"Les Nations: High Baroque Trio Sonatas": Academy of Early Music. The New York early music quartet **The Sebastians**, who have been praised by the *New York Times* as "sharp-edged and engaging," performs Couperin's *Les Nations*, their signature rendition of Vivaldi's *Folia*, and trio sonatas by Corelli, Boyce, and Handel. Preceded at 7:15 p.m. by a lecture on the program by the musicians. 8 p.m., **St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**, 306 N. Division. \$30 (seniors, \$25; students, \$10) in advance by Feb. 16 at academyofearlymusic.org; \$5 more after Feb. 16. 228–4338.

"Mr. B's Annual Birthday Bounce": Kerrystown Concert House. Popular annual concert by world-renowned local blues pianist **Mark "Mr. B" Braun**, an exuberant, powerful performer whose repertoire includes both boogie-woogie and blues classics and originals in the same mold. With guest artists TBA. 8 p.m., **KCH**, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$20–\$35 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. kerrystownconcerthouse.com. 769–2999.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Cryptic": Neighborhood Theatre Group. See 23 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Disgraced": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 8 p.m.

L.A. Hardy: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 22 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

25 SUNDAY

★"Gaming Tournament": Ann Arbor District Library. All ages invited to play "Mario Kart 8 Deluxe." 1–4 p.m., **AADL Downtown** 4th-floor meeting rm. Free. 327–8301.

"31st Annual Storytelling Festival": The Ark. See 24 Saturday. Today's program is a family show with Eileen DeLorenzo, who specializes in world folktales, Michigan tall tales, and original stories of folly and struggle; **Genot Pictor**, who blends stories, songs, and dances of the Métis Voyageur from Michigan's early days; and popular Ann Arbor District Library storyteller **Laura Raynor**. 1 p.m.

★"New York City and State Vital Records and Alternates": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. Livestreamed lecture by ForgetMeNot Ancestry owner **Jane Wilcox**, an expert on archival sources in New England and New York. Followed by a panel discussion by GSWC members on "New York Research." 1:30 & 3:30 p.m., **St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Education Center** auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. Use parking lot P and look for the club's signs. Free. 483–2799.

"8th Annual Chili Cook-Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Fundraiser. Tastings of several chilis. Raffle and AACT 2018/2019 season announcement. Beer available. 2–5 p.m., **Wolverine State Brewing Company**, 2019 W. Stadium. Tickets \$20 (kids age 9 & under, \$10). [A2CT.org](http://a2ct.org). 971–2228.

★"Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild": All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. 2–4 p.m., **Ann Arbor District Library Freespace** (3rd floor). Free. 971–5763.

★"Aftermath: Landscapes of Devastation": UMMA. Docent-led tour of the current exhibit of landscape photos of volcano eruptions, floods, massacres, uprisings, and nuclear explosions. 2 p.m., **UMMA**, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.

"Cryptic": Neighborhood Theatre Group. See 23 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★"Polymer Clay Ring Dish": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults & teens in grade 6 & up invited to make a dish to store jewelry and other small items. Materials provided. 3–5 p.m., **AADL Traverwood**. Free. 327–8301.

★"Inspired by Shakespeare": Dexter Community Band. Bill Gourley conducts this 85-member volunteer ensemble in performances of Verdi's *Prelude to Macbeth*, the Overture to Otto Nicolai's opera *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, and selections from *West Side Story* and Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer's Night Dream*. Also, Nigel Hess's *Shakespeare Pictures*, a suite of incidental music from Royal Shakespeare Company productions of *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *Julius Caesar*. 3 p.m., **Dexter Center for the Performing Arts**, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker, Dexter. Free. 426–2734.

"Million Dollar Quartet": The Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★"Family Hamantaschen Bake": Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor. All invited to learn about the triangular filled-pocket cookie associated with Purim and to make some to take home. 3:30–5 p.m., **JCC**, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. Free. Preregistration required. 971–0990.

★"The Michigan Lighthouse Landmark Legacy Project": Concordia University. DSO trumpeter William Lucas and U-M composition professor Kristin Kuster discuss their new opera based on the history of Michigan lighthouses. With video of lighthouses. 4 p.m., **Concordia Chapel of the Holy Trinity**, 4090 Geddes. Free. 995–7537.

David Troiano: Zion Lutheran Church Concert Series. Performance by this St. Clare of Montefalco Parish (Grosse Pointe Park) organist. 4 p.m., **Zion Sanctuary**, 1501 W. Liberty. Freewill offering for the choir's music scholarships and tour. 994–4455.

"Americans in Paris": Michigan Opera Theatre. MOT singers perform the music that infused early 20th-century Parisian salon culture. Program includes works by George Gershwin, Aaron Copland, and Ricky Ian Gordon, whose 2014 opera about Gertrude Stein and Alice B. Toklas' relationship, 27, comes to town March 2 & 3. 4 p.m., **KCH**, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$25 (students, \$10). Reservations recommended. kerrystownconcerthouse.com. 769–2999.

"Or": Kickshaw Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 4 p.m.

★"Disgraced": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 2 p.m.

Open Stage: Pointless Brewery & Theatre. All performers invited to showcase their talents. 7:30 p.m., **Pointless**, 3014 Packard. Pay what you can. Email info@pointlessbrew.com to sign up for an 8-minute spot. (989) 455–4484.

26 MONDAY

★"Folk Song Sing-Along." Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski lead a family-oriented recreational sing-along of folk songs. Bring your guitars, ukuleles, and other instruments if you'd like to jam along as well. Lyrics and chords are projected on a screen for singers and strummers. 7 p.m., **First Unitarian Universalist Congregation**, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 426–7818.

★Marine Corps Jazz Orchestra: EMU Music Department. Performance by this 20-piece jazz orchestra that's toured annually for almost a decade, performing American and Latin jazz in the styles of Stan Kenton, Count Basie, Duke Ellington and others. Program TBA. 7:30–9:30 p.m., **Pease Auditorium**, EMU campus, W. Cross at College Place, Ypsilanti. Free. 487–2255.

27 TUESDAY

★"Origami": Ann Arbor District Library. Internationally known local origami artist Beth Johnson discusses and shows participants how to do this popular Japanese paper-folding craft. 7–8:30 p.m., **AADL Downtown Secret Lab**. Free. 327–8301.

★"Nutrition and the Consciousness": People's Food Co-op. Talk by PFC outreach coordinator David Hall. 7 p.m., **Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room**, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required by phone or email. outreach@peoplesfood.coop, 994–4589.

★"Red Clocks": Literati Bookstore Feminist Book Club. All invited to discuss Leni Zumas's novel set in an alternate reality where abortion is illegal, in-vitro fertilization is banned, and embryos have a right to life, liberty, and property. 7 p.m., **Literati**, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.

★"Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters. Reading by Marlin Jenkins, a Detroit poet (and U-M creative writing grad) whose poems often come off as fragments of a visionary spiritual autobiography. The program begins with open mike readings. 7–8:30 p.m., **Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea**, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.

David Taylor & Kevin Bylsma: Kerrystown Concert House. Local pianist Bylsma accompanies operatic tenor Taylor, a University of Alabama voice professor, in a program TBA. 8 p.m., **KCH**, 415 N. Fourth Ave. \$15–\$30 (students, \$5). Reservations recommended. kerrystownconcerthouse.com. 769–2999.

28 WEDNESDAY

★"Disgraced": PTD Productions. See 22 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Flint": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

"Fish 101": Zingerman's Delicatessen. Zingerman's staff discuss preserved and smoked fish from around the world. Samples. 6–7:30 p.m., **Zingerman's Next Door** (upstairs), 422 Detroit St. \$10. 663–3354.

★"The Cataracts": Literati Bookstore Poetry Book Club. All invited to discuss U-M creative writing professor Raymond McDaniel's new collection of poems that explore existential questions and metaphors of seeing. 7 p.m., **Literati**, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.

★"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Award-winning Dexter poet (and former Ann Arbor city councilwoman) **Katherine Edgren** reads from *The Grain Beneath the Gloss*, her new collection of poems exploring the realities that keep themselves secret within appearances, and Jackson Community College creative nonfiction instructor **Jennifer Burd** reads from *Day's Late Blue*, her new collection of poems that explore relationships with nature, family, and others. Local multi-instrumentalist and vocalist **Laszlo Slomovits** (half of the nationally known local folk music duo Gemini) performs his song settings of some of Burd's poems and of works by the Sufi mystic Rumi and other poets. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. 7–9 p.m., **Crazy Wisdom**, 114 S. Main. Free. 665–2757.

★"Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group": Deep Spring Center. All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices. Q&A. Also, socializing. 7–9:30 p.m., **Deep Spring Center**, 704 Airport Blvd. (west off S. State north of Ellsworth). Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.

★"History of Science Reading Group": Motte & Bailey, Booksellers. All invited to discuss Paul Russell Cutright's *Lewis and Clark, Pioneering Naturalists*. 7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 7 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Classifieds

Lessons & Workshops

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 12.

Get happy piano/guitar lessons for your child! Decades of training, experience, and performance. Two degrees in Music Education. For a free consult call (734) 646-2740.

PIANO LESSONS—Greater AA area, your home, all levels. Experienced, perceptive teacher, DMA U-M. Info (734) 482-4663.

For Sale

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 12.

Glass table with glass legs for sale. 42"x72" \$225.00 Call (734) 528-4446.

Miscellaneous

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 12.

I SPY CONTEST

Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 79? If you can, you could win a \$25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 12. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769-3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (put I Spy in the subject line).

FAKE AD CONTEST

Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, February 12. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103.

Services

The Classifieds deadline for the March issue is February 12.

Climate Control Indoor Storage
490 S. Maple Rd Ann Arbor MI 48103
Next to Westgate Kroger (734) 662-5262
www.ccindoorstorage.com

SolidFuel CSA (734) 707-1655
Intentional & Raw Food & Supply
Concierge & Drayage. Including
Healthful Design & Implementation

Debra's Personal Care Services
Providing the best home care for the elderly and disabled. Overnight care and transportation available! (734) 368-5828

Experienced Cleaning at its best!
Call Rachel (734) 363-0839.

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Kitchens ★ Baths ★ Basements
Quality Work ★ Attention To Detail
Appliance Repair ★ Firewood
Tree Trimming
(734) 545-4859 BillBoring2@gmail.com

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Bonded and insured.

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Drywall, painting, furniture repair, fix
leaks, repair outlets, etc. Jared at (734)
223-5622 or jdwarshuis@gmail.com.

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Place Your Classified Ad Today!

To advertise, email, fax, or mail your ad info to the address below by the 12th of the month. Rates are \$7 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion (two line minimum). Ads will run in the next open issue.

Mail, email, or fax your ad to:

Ann Arbor Observer Classifieds
2390 Winewood Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Office: (734) 769-3175, Fax: (734) 769-3375

Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com

Please include your name and contact information.

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

Something to Celebrate?

Announce an engagement, wedding, birthday, or any special occasion. Text only or include a photo. Call for more information: (734) 769-3175

SPECIAL REQUEST

Dear Readers, Please confirm your FREE subscription.

You may call our office to confirm at 734.769.3175, fill out the form below and mail it to our office, or email the information to subscribe@aaobserver.com. The confirmation is good for 3 years.

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To maintain our second-class-periodical postal status, which includes a faster, more economical delivery service, we have to show the post office that our readers want to keep receiving the Ann Arbor Observer.

Since 1976, the Observer has been a locally owned community resource. We want to continue to provide the Observer to all permanent Ann Arbor residents and chamber members in Washtenaw County. We are making every effort to keep costs in line and maintain our commitment to quality. **Please take a few minutes to confirm your FREE subscription.** Or become an Observer Friend! See page 79 for more information.

Thanks for reading the Observer.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Garcia
Publisher



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February 12 will be entered
in a drawing for a **\$25 Gift
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advertising in the Observer.

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1055 Arlington Blvd, Ann Arbor—Located in desirable Ann Arbor Hills! Stunning cedar shingled Cape Cod, completely renovated and expanded into a dream home! Inviting double door entry welcomes you with hardwood floors, custom moldings, vaulted ceilings, skylights and true divided light windows throughout. Delightful formal living and dining rooms for gracious entertaining. Have family gatherings in the large family room with gas fireplace and expansive windows overlooking private backyard. Gourmet kitchen with Brazilian cherry floors, marble counters, stainless appliances. Roomy first floor laundry with entrance to small service yard, perfect for a dog. Luxurious first floor master suite with gas fireplace with adjoining rear deck, huge shower, plumbed for soaking tub, heated floor inset. Small, quiet study off master suite. Upstairs features 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, one delightfully retro, one brand new. Partially finished lower level with egress and half bath. Situated on a large, beautifully landscaped lot. \$1,180,000. #3253189.

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MARKET UPDATE - February 2018

Welcome 2018! What a year in Real Estate. The 2017 selling season may go on the books as the strongest year ever for Ann Arbor real estate. Driven by demand to live in our wonderful community and outstanding neighborhoods, home values reached their highest level ever in many areas. 2018 will bring more of the same. Are you thinking of buying or selling in 2018? Call me today for a private consultation, 734-476-7100.

SELLERS – The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today. 734-476-7100.

BUYERS – Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search. 734-476-7100.

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Over 100 homes sold in 2017

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Matt Dejanovich has been a realtor serving the Ann Arbor area for 30 years and has been a resident of the community his entire life. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his clients.



WOODLANDS OF GEDDES GLEN –

This brand new, custom-built 5-bedroom, 5 1/2-bath Toll Brothers home features only the finest in design, materials, and craftsmanship. Located on one of the best lots in the neighborhoods, backing to Radrick Farms, the exterior features covered patio with outdoor fireplace, wooded backyard, and extensive landscaping. The interior is showpiece with two-story great room with stacked stone fireplace, gourmet kitchen with Wolf Range, Solarium, luxury master suite, and 4 additional bedrooms with private baths. \$1,799,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



CHELSEA –

Incredible 17-acre country estate featuring one of the most stunning custom-built homes you will ever see. Enjoy this gorgeous property with panoramic vista views and abundant state land adjacent views. The home includes 5-bedrooms, 5 1/2-baths with exceptional materials, design, and craftsmanship throughout. Features include in-ground pool, gourmet kitchen, rec room, luxury master suite, finished walkout basement, and 5 1/2 car garage. \$1,295,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



ANN ARBOR HILLS –

Stunning 4-bedroom, 4-bath, 2 1/2-bath custom-built home by Landau on a gorgeous, wooded 3/4 acre site in Ann Arbor Hills. This home rests on one of the most beautiful settings you will see with towering oaks, multiple decks, and great privacy. This all-brick home features a cherry kitchen with stainless steel appliances, family room with fireplace, oversized screened porch, ample hardwood floors, great master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$1,250,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NE ANN ARBOR –

This 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath Frank Lloyd Wright inspired contemporary home is a pure masterpiece of design and materials. Estate setting with 8-acres of the most beautiful land you will find. Includes extensive landscaping with a flowing stream, stone patio, and pond. The home highlights include soaring ceilings, dramatic slate fireplace, stone flooring, gourmet kitchen, luxury master suite, and finished walkout lower level. \$1,150,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE ESTATES –

This custom-built 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home by Toll Brothers is absolutely gorgeous. Located on one of the premium lots you will see backing to protected woods with large backyard, mature trees, and great deck. The interior is a showpiece featuring a cherry kitchen, open concept family room with stone fireplace, large den, dream master suite, and finished lower level with rec room. \$759,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



Saline – Incredible 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath estate property on 8 1/2 fully developed acres just south of Saline. This setting is special featuring stocked pond, in ground pool, huge deck and patio areas, and spacious yard. The all-brick two-story home is custom-built and includes dramatic kitchen and family room area with stone fireplace, cherry kitchen, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$699,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – TRAVIS POINTE –

Stately 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath Colonial overlooking the #12 Green at Travis Pointe Country Club. Enjoy resort-style living in Ann Arbor's premier year-round Country Club neighborhood. This setting is special with panoramic golf course views, one acre of manicured grounds, large deck, and patio. The interior features family room with vaulted ceiling, open kitchen, main level den, very nice master suite, and finished walkout basement. \$629,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



MIRAGE LAKE –

Custom-built, 4-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath home with panoramic water views. You will not find a better home with a better view on the market today. The grounds are fantastic with lake views from the large deck, paver patio, or gazebo. Interior highlights include great room with fireplace and cherry floor, custom kitchen with granite, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walkout basement with rec room, bedroom, and bath. \$599,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



THE UPLANDS – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath two-story in one of Ann Arbor's most sought after neighborhoods. You will love being minutes from Main Street, UM Stadium, schools, and shopping from this wonderful neighborhood. This home has been nicely updated and features cherry kitchen with granite, open family room with hardwood floor, main floor den, very nice master suite, nice sized kids' bedrooms, and finished basement. \$579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE SCHOOLS –

Custom-built 4-bedroom, 4 1/2-bath home on 5 gorgeous acres of land. This setting is incredible with sweeping views of the surrounding countryside and room for a barn or soccer field. The home is just stunning with a custom cherry kitchen including granite and stainless steel appliances, open family room, main floor den, luxury master suite with two walk-in closets and marble baths, and finished basement with view from windows includes huge multi-use rec space. \$574,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – CENTENNIAL FARMS –

This very sharp 4-bedroom, 4-bath colonial is walking distance to Harvest Elementary and Saline High School. You will love the setting adjacent to a mature oak tree forest with 1/2-acre lot and paver patio. The interior highlights include great room with vaulted ceiling and fireplace, open concept kitchen with granite counter tops, main floor den, luxury master suite with upgraded bath, and finished basement with large rec room and full bath. \$519,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – LANSDOWNE – Rare 3-bedroom, 2-bath ranch in one of Ann Arbor's most desired neighborhoods. This completely updated home rests on a quiet cul-de-sac lot walking distance to Lawton Elementary, Pioneer High School, and UM football stadium. The interior sparkles and features great room vaulted ceiling and fireplace, remodeled kitchen with quartz counters and stainless steel appliance, nice master suite with new bath, and great kids' bedrooms. \$489,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



SALINE SCHOOLS – Remarkable 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath custom-built home in The Vineyards of Sha Estates. You will love the setting on a private 3/4-acre lot with large backyard and incredible deck/patio outdoor living area. The interior of the home features a two-story great room, open concept kitchen space, first floor master suite, and finished lower level with flex-use rec room. \$477,500. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – ANN ARBOR SCHOOLS – Incredible 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath Colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Saline's most desired subs. This home is very welcoming with many quality features and amenities. Highlights include open concept kitchen with oak hardwood floor, great room with two-story ceiling and fireplace, very nice master suite, flex-use 4th bedroom/bonus room, and walkout basement. \$329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – TORWOOD – Move-in condition 4-bedroom, 2 1/2-bath Colonial on a quiet cul-de-sac lot in one of Ann Arbor's most desired complexes. You love this conveniently located condo just minutes to I-94, UM, shopping, and restaurants. This easy living condo features an open concept first floor including kitchen with stainless steel appliances and living room with fireplace, 2 bedroom suites on the 2nd floor, and finished walkout basement. \$264,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEW LISTING – OAK MEADOWS – Hard to find 2-bedroom, 3 1/2-bath condo in one of Ann Arbor's most desired complexes. You love this conveniently located condo just minutes to I-94, UM, shopping, and restaurants. This easy living condo features an open concept first floor including kitchen with stainless steel appliances and living room with fireplace, 2 bedroom suites on the 2nd floor, and finished walkout basement. \$264,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**



NEWPORT CREEK – One of the few remaining building sites located within the Ann Arbor City limits with public water and sewer. You will love the convenience of Newport Creek just minutes to downtown Ann Arbor and the U-M central campus and medical center. This .51-acre building site is perfect for a walkout basement and backs to common area. \$224,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

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CLOSED SALES 2017

1020 Louise	169 Ashley Mews	1505 Shadford	7655 Forest
2980 Hunley	2682 Valley	4264 Oakengates	3542 Larchmont
2908 Knightsbridge	88 Carriage Way	8141 Lake Crest	1478 Mark Twain
2210 Rivenoak	5909 Villa France	10269 Clinton-Macon	1035 Martin Place
758 Ridgemont	1925 Timber Trail	3747 Maple	5408 Pinnacle
171 Kingsbrook	319 Pauline	2124 Stephen Terrace	711 N 5th Ave
2980 Hunley	2677 Wayside	21708 Jefferson	13350 Lake Point
2908 Knightsbridge	311 Wilton	505 E Huron #205	132 Ashley Mews
2210 Rivenoak	319 Gralake	121 W Kingsley	2277 Huron River Dr
457 Sumark Way	1281 Timmins	739 Watersedge	5676 Amber Way
4713 Inverness	520 W Madison	2500 Pittsfield	508 Alice
206 S Hamilton	2210 Steeplechase	1111 Freesia	4957 Looking Glass
1542 Newport Creek	207 W Mosley	322 E Liberty #20	24267 Wallon Way
2546 Carlton	111 N Ashley #305	1393 Timmins	691 Woodhill
1709 Collegewood	2942 Hunley	1720 Shadford	3144 Nisbet
3167 Otter Creek Ct	3628 Meadow Grove	1 Heatheridge	1316 Eisenhower
2415 Faye	2241 S. Huron Pkwy #4	3629 Deerfield	3385 Williamsburg
3140 Andora	1050 Wall #10E	13777 Orchard Ridge	3365 Breckland
3079 Barclay	1167 Joyce	2919 Whispering Woods	51247 Northview
4046 Cornerstone	8823 Amaranth	2426 The Crossings	1050 Joyce
5746 Hampshire Lane	617 N 4th Ave	2781 Grant	2735 Walters Way
1365 Kuehnle	88 Carriage Way	675 Liberty Pointe	406 N Revena
8280 Crab Apple	336 Sedgewood	3520 Meadow Grove	270 Hunters Trail
863 Starwick	618 Duane	3026 Forest Creek	3837 Willis Rd
2500 Bunker Hill	27 Colony Ct	315 Second #306	4878 S Ridgeside Circle
8203 Barrington	8322 Stamford	3434 Hillshire	7125 Mulder
2105 Copley	319 Pauline	303 N Division	4375 Lakeside Ct
9691 Harbour Cove Ct	8312 Whitmore Lake	203 Cherokee	1101 Granger
273 Scio Village #244	6022 Versailles	43617 Fleetwood	3332 Alpine
2764 S Knightsbridge	18 Fairhills	2943 Laurentide	1464 Fox Pointe
2730 Barclay	42007 Woodbridge	1614 Pontiac Trail	3084 Village Circle
17111 Hermitage	1425 Dicken	1311 Colgate	8737 Boxelder
3223 Creston Circle	3760 Sargent	825 Redeemer	5308 Bethel Church
809 Miller	1693 Fulmer	8545 Hawthorn Hill	2430 Tremmel
117 E Summit	1729 Weldon	2796 S Knightsbridge	3937 Willis
4812 Whitman	48 Ridgemont	2744 S Knightsbridge	10880 Stoney Point
519 Longshore Dr #B	615 W Michigan	598 Lambkins	1879 Kensington
2554 Country Village	2591 West Towne	1233 Meadow Lane	811 Redeemer
2518 Madrono Ct	5155 Doral	273 Scio Village #240	48313 Madeline
190 Island Lake	164 Burwyck	2500 Pittsfield	8269 Warwick
425 2nd Street	2942 Hunley	2808 Cranbrook	1946 Bancroft
400 Sedgewood	3366 Endsleigh	118 W Oakbrook	1058 Greenhills
436 Third St #2	3174 Primrose	1309 North Bay	2535 Meade Ct
2554 Timber Hill	3023 Lakehaven	210 N Seventh	1540 Long Meadow
1584 Mallard Cove	555 E William #17B	1050 Bicentennial	5653 Arbor Chase
11335 Cady	555 E William #3K	1742 Cedar	3213 Primrose
661 Archwood	1050 Wall #3C	772 Wagner	1153 Fall River
8666 Magnolia	229 Scio Village #219	1531 Dicken	5831 Big Pine
1105 Arborview	2547 Meade Ct	505 Washtenaw	45979 Tallgrass
823 Pomona	9578 Sherwood	741 W Castlebury Circle	1301 Millbrook
1472 Harpst	6227 Gyers Meadow	2421 Mulberry	118 Ponds View
201 Wilkinson	4952 Green Knolls	1794 Addington	551 Liberty Pointe
3134 Asher	1861 Telford	8391 Stamford	801 Cornell
1050 Wall #3E	1005 W Liberty	2275 Westaire	315 Second #203
3030 Barclay	8133 Autumn Woods	18978 Denali Circle	10148 E Avondale
7302 S Pinefield	1120 Heather Way	7356 Strawberry Lake	5698 Big Pine
8251 Merritt	3742 Bridle Pass	1531 Dicken	1321 Arroyo
2435 Westbrooke	3784 Briar Parkway	8575 Glendale	8879 Indigo
3016 Brockman	2039 Tibbits	4483 Ford Rd.	494 Sylvan
2102 Gunnison	6912 Wellington	7983 Mester	7155 Cherry Hill
3366 Dixboro	908 Arboretum	5084 S Mayfield West	2850 S Knightsbridge
8666 Magnolia	1166 Pine Ridge Ct	3336 Primrose	111 N. Ashley #804
3035 Sunnywood	1008 Pine Ridge Ct	121 Kingsley #405	118 Ponds View
8169 Cypress	1357 Heatherwood	851 Summerfield Glen	1929 Savannah
380 Sedgewood	1506 Long Meadow	1018 Summerfield Glen	8519 Lee
1360 Arlington	1375 Fox Pointe	1157 Joyce	247 Wild Rose Court
1472 Harpst	111 N Ashley #909	2090 Bent Trail	1495 Fox Pointe
168 Wallace	15 Southwick	867 Arboretum	1327 Nottingham Court
1796 Marlowe St	3071 Ailsa Craig	2547 Meade	7827 Trotters Park
1391 Millbrook	7771 Pleasant Lane	1020 Brooks	2039 Sheffield
9158 Lake Pine Drive	644 Berkshire	1570 Glastonbury	2771 Ashcombe
1815 Independence	1319 Popular	1608 Anderson	770 Deer #105



Ann Arbor

This Saginaw Hills contemporary has sweeping views of the incredible 6.3 acre setting with towering pines and views of the pond. Gorgeous master suite with sitting area, private balcony, dressing area and spa-like bath. **\$1,185,000**



Ann Arbor

Only the best in this custom designed, Bosco built home in Walnut Ridge. Solid wood doors, Chelsea Plank flooring, plus smart home elements. Situated on a rare, cul-de-sac lot backing to woods. **\$1,095,000**



Superior Township

Stunning, 6-bedroom executive home in the exclusive Glennborough neighborhood. Soaring 2-story great room with double-sided fireplace, huge kitchen and master suite, plus walk-out lower level with second kitchen and more. **\$945,000**



Ann Arbor

Gorgeous newer construction ideally located just steps from downtown. Open main level with wood floors is surrounded by windows and includes a family room with fireplace, formal dining room, and enviable kitchen. **\$800,000**



Downtown Ann Arbor

Sweeping views of the Huron River and rolling hills from this penthouse condo in the heart of downtown! Enjoy city living in this rare 3 bedroom unit with soaring 10' ceilings. Private balcony, parking, and storage. **\$775,000**



Ann Arbor

Luxury and privacy like this rarely come to the market. This Oak Ridge condo features over 2,600 square feet, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, plus a private patio and sunroom. Expansive master retreat with all of the extras. **\$759,900**



Ann Arbor

Burns Park charmer within walking distance to several schools and parks. This 1930's home features 2280 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, and a partially finished lower level. Brick patio overlooks the large, fenced backyard. **\$625,000**



Pinckney

Enjoy lake living year-round in this beautiful, custom 4 bedroom Craftsman with frontage on Little Portage on the desirable Chain of Lakes. The living area offers both a cozy fireplace and wall of windows overlooking the water. **\$599,900**



Ann Arbor

1920's home in the coveted Angell School area that has been lovingly restored to resemble its original charm. Beautiful wood flooring throughout most of the home. Wrap around porch views the mature, organic gardens. **\$574,900**



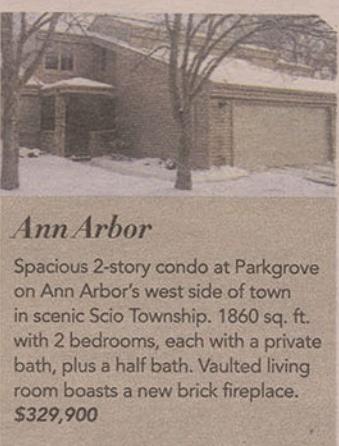
Ann Arbor

Prime view of the 5th fairway from this impressive Stonebridge Estates home. Desirable first floor master suite with luxurious bath and access to the deck. Neutral décor allows you to move right in and make it your own. **\$549,900**



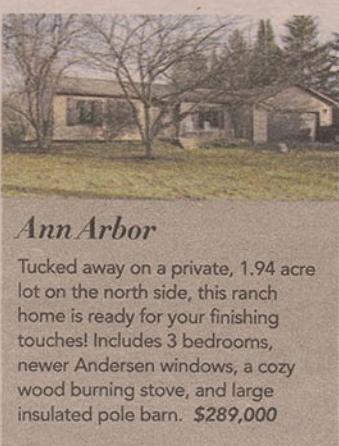
Ann Arbor

Be a part of one of Ann Arbor's premier golf course communities at this spacious Links at Stonebridge home! Soaring vaulted living room has a wall of windows, cozy fireplace, and hardwood floors. Luxurious master suite. **\$429,900**



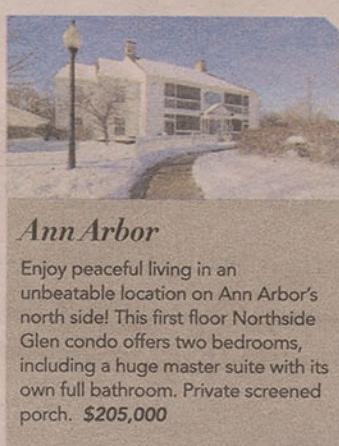
Ann Arbor

Spacious 2-story condo at Parkgrove on Ann Arbor's west side of town in scenic Scio Township. 1860 sq. ft. with 2 bedrooms, each with a private bath, plus a half bath. Vaulted living room boasts a new brick fireplace. **\$329,900**



Ann Arbor

Tucked away on a private, 1.94 acre lot on the north side, this ranch home is ready for your finishing touches! Includes 3 bedrooms, newer Andersen windows, a cozy wood burning stove, and large insulated pole barn. **\$289,000**



Ann Arbor

Enjoy peaceful living in an unbeatable location on Ann Arbor's north side! This first floor Northside Glen condo offers two bedrooms, including a huge master suite with its own full bathroom. Private screened porch. **\$205,000**



Ann Arbor

Investment opportunity! Ranch home on Ann Arbor's east side that has been well maintained. 1008 sq. ft., +500 in finished lower level, 3 bedrooms and 1 bath. Great deck overlooks the fenced backyard. **\$169,900**

CUSTOM LUXURY HOMES STARTING AT \$1 MILLION

PINE RIDGE ESTATES



- Only 9 Lots Left!
- Desirable Ann Arbor Location
- One Acre+ Homesites
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- Stan and Zadie Kenzawac

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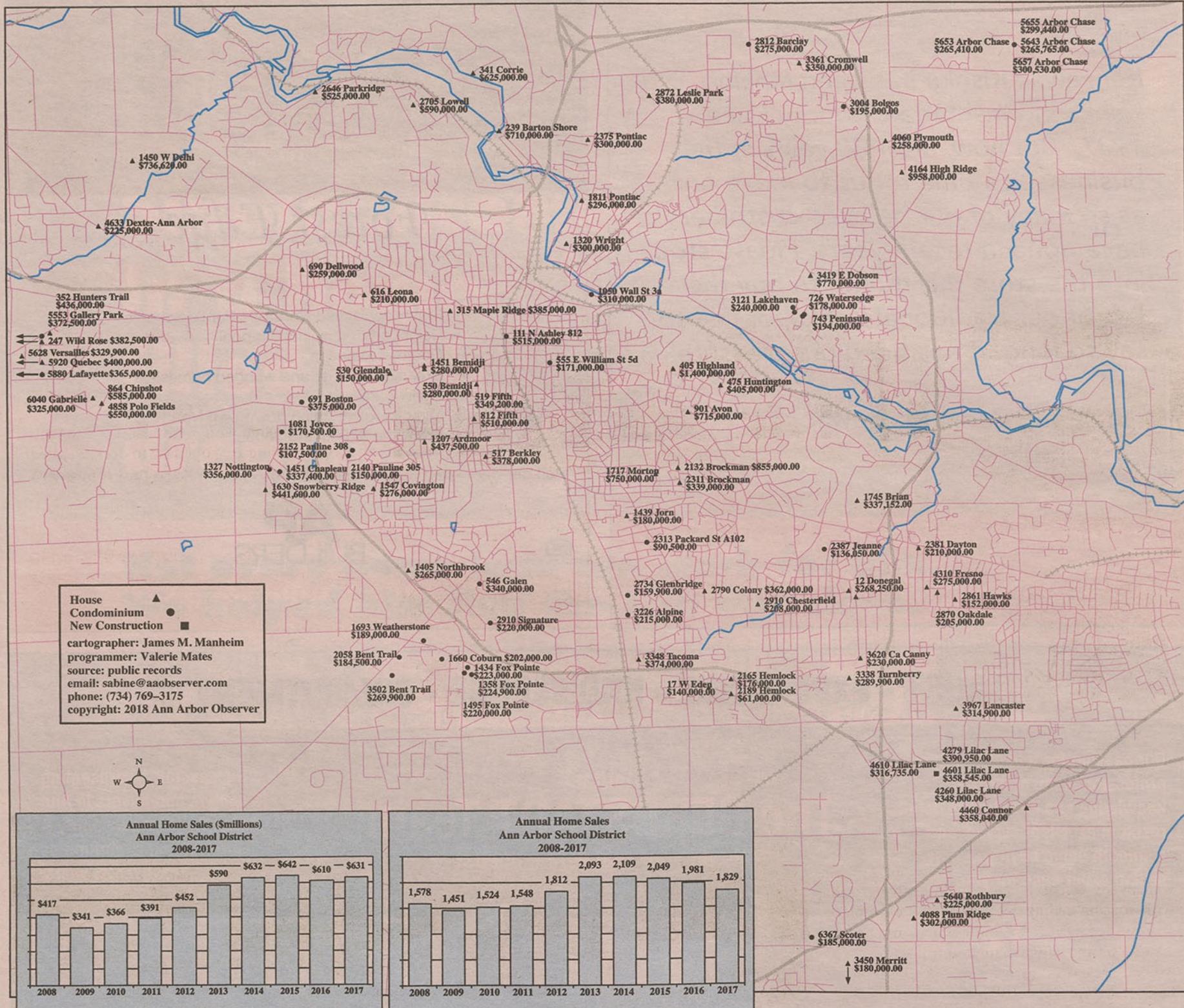
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DECEMBER 2017

HOME SALES



After dropping in 2016, the aggregate value of homes sold in the Ann Arbor School District bounced back in 2017. The total value of the new and existing single-family homes and condos sold totaled almost \$632 million, up 3.5 percent from 2016. Dollar volume had fallen last year after two record years of growth—13 percent in 2014 and 6 percent in 2015—but it seems that the upward march has resumed.

The increase came despite a small decline in the total number of homes sold, from 1,981 in 2016 to 1,829 last year. Comparatively pricier single-family homes increased from 1,180 to 1,276 as Scio Township's big Arbor Chase development notched strong sales and owners of existing homes cashed out in the rising

market. Condo sales declined from 701 sales to 553: the large new developments downtown and at the city's edges are mostly bought out. Look for that to change as new projects come online in 2018 and 2019.

The overall result: prices are up across the board. The median single-family home price—half cost more, half cost less—rose 7.5 percent, from \$321,000 to \$345,000. For that \$345,000, you could have chosen from among several houses on this month's map, including a classic southwest-side Ann Arbor ranch at 1619 Dicken or a larger 2014 home at 5261 Buckley in the Hickory Point sub off Munger Rd. south of Michigan Ave.—with an Ypsilanti mailing address, Pittsfield Township taxes, and Ann Arbor schools.

The condo median rose as well, from \$195,000 to \$205,000. Again that amount to spend would have left you with choices on our map, including 737 Watersedge in the Geddes Lake complex in east Ann Arbor—units there are well-designed, with lush, enduringly attractive landscaping, and correspondingly higher monthly fees. Or you could head up to the growing northern edge of town for the condo at 2833 S. Knightsbridge Cir. off Pontiac Trail. Olson Park is nearby and there's relatively open countryside just across M-14 in Ann Arbor Township, yet it's just a ten-minute drive or bus ride from downtown Ann Arbor.

You say money is not an issue? Ann Arbor hasn't historically been a high-end town, but it can be now. Our most expensive condo last year was the 2,702-square-

foot condo at 403 N. Fourth Ave. in Kerseytown, which went for \$1,450,000. It was edged out pricewise by the handsome Tudor single-family home, with its own above-the-garage studio apartment with full bath, at 1035 Martin Pl. in the city's enclave of old prestige, the Burns Park neighborhood. At \$1,665,000, that was our top-dollar sale of the year.

—James M. Manheim

The Observer is looking for a new writer for its Real Estate section. Responsibilities include maintaining a sales database, tracking trends, and spotting telling transactions. If you're interested, email your thoughts on the Real Estate section and the local market to John Hilton: hilton@aaobserver.com.

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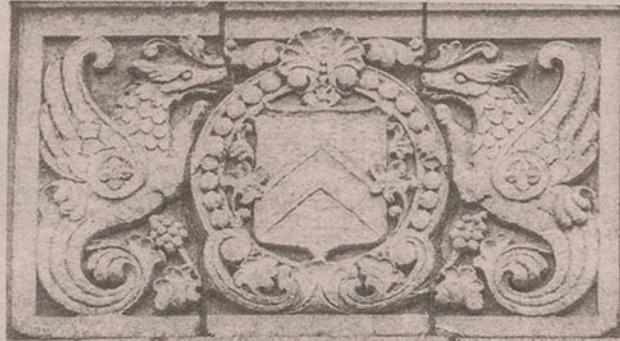
Back Page

i spy

by Sally Bjork

January's I Spy is "the best Ann Arbor bookstore!" writes Tom Weimert. It's "Literati," says Colleen Roche, "the independent bookstore ... downtown." "Has it been five years already?" Carol Mousigian asks, referring to the clue. Literati "was opened in March 2013 by Mike and Hilary Gustafson," writes David Karl. "An Ann Arbor match made in heaven," he continues ... a "cool bookstore run by cool people." "I remember when it opened," says Sam Firke. "Now it feels like an Ann Arbor icon."

"The 'L' in this month's photo is the first letter of the typewriter keyboard-inspired logo," writes David Frye. The "iconic storefront sign," re-



Lions nearby

lays Karl, "was designed by the former senior editor at National Geographic ... and constructed by Grafaktri of Ann Arbor."

We received 17 correct entries in January. Our random drawing winner is Eugene Ko, who will enjoy his \$25 gift certificate at Marnee Thai.

To enter this month's contest, use the clue and photo above and follow the instructions below to submit your answer.



by Jay Forstner & Sabine Bickford

We received 164 entries correctly identifying the Fake Ad for Ann Arbor Eligible Singles on page 29 of the January issue. December winner Kathy Strachan, whose name was hiding between "Orchestra" and "Channing Tatum," wrote in: "My husband saw me checking out the Ann Arbor Eligible Singles ad ... I responded to his raised eyebrow with the comment that I was sure this was the fake ad and I was trying to find my name in it."

The winner of this month's drawing may be familiar to readers: Sonia Zawacki won the November contest just a few months ago. The Fake Ad Czar assures everyone that he does not play favorites: especially favorites whose last names could win you a game of Scrabble. Zawacki's daughter did win our hearts over the holidays by giving her father a "gift

"A little bit about me: I love Latvian food, needle-point, anything by Electric Light Orchestra, Channing Tatum films, our planet, and my eleven cats."

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fake ad

card" she had created to Dominick's Pizza, the fake business whose ad contained Zawacki's name in the December issue.

A lot of readers thought a website for Ann Arbor singles was not a bad idea. "I'm probably not alone in thinking this should be a real thing," wrote Steve Maser.

Many were upset at the ad's implication that eleven cats wouldn't make a great match for someone. Nancy Taylor wrote "Who wouldn't like to move in with eleven cats??! You shouldn't pour cold water on an obviously good deal." Marilyn Knepp questioned: "What do you have against cats?"

Zawacki is taking her gift certificate to Tio's Mexican Café.

To enter this month's contest, find the fake ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The fake ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter this month's contests, send email to backpage@aoobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. All correct entries received by noon on Friday, February 9, will be eligible for our random drawings. Winners receive \$25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our January drawing!

The following readers won a **\$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

January winners:
Nataliya S. & Scott W.

If you would like to be entered in the February drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 68, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by February 12.

Thanks!
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Events at a Glance

Daily Events listings begin on p. 51. Films: p. 60. Galleries: p. 64. Kids: p. 66. Nightspots begin on p. 48.

► Reviewed in this issue. See p. 51.

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- "Wine, Women, & Song," Feb. 2 & 3
- Estonian National Symphony, Feb. 3
- Tenor Ian Bostridge, Feb. 4
- Violinist Joshua Bell, Feb. 10
- NOW Ensemble (chamber), Feb. 10
- "This Is My Beloved: A Festival of Hymns," Feb. 11
- Flutist Emmanuel Pahud, Feb. 14
- "Schubert's Winterreise," Feb. 20
- The Sebastians (early music), Feb. 24
- Dexter Community Band, Feb. 25



The Burns Park Players perform
Kiss Me, Kate Feb 2, 3, 9, & 10.

- *Disgraced* (PTD Productions), Feb. 22–24, 25, & 28
- *Cryptic* (Neighborhood Theatre), Feb. 23–25
- *La Bohème* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Feb. 24 & 28

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Performance artist FK Alexander, Feb. 1–3
- Comic Nore Davis, Feb. 1–3
- Comic Mike Birbiglia, Feb. 2
- *Cue This* (Pointless Improvisers), Feb. 2 & 9
- Full Metal Jokers, Feb. 7
- Comic Andy Woodhull, Feb. 8–10
- Valentine's Comedy Show, Feb. 14
- "The Totally Offensive Politically Incorrect Show," Feb. 15
- Comic Kira Soltanovich, Feb. 16 & 17
- Comic L.A. Hardy, Feb. 22–24
- Comic Ron White, Feb. 24
- Ark Storytelling Festival, Feb. 24

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *Million Dollar Quartet* (Encore), every Thurs.–Sun.
- U-M Dance Company, Feb. 1–4
- *They, Themselves, & Schmerm* (UMS), Feb. 1–3
- *Beau Monde* (PURe Dance), Feb. 1–3
- *Constellations* (Theatre Nova), every Thurs.–Sun. through Feb. 18
- *Flint* (Purple Rose), every Wed.–Sun.
- *The Trojan Women* (EMU Theatre), Feb. 2–4 & 8–11
- *Kiss Me, Kate* (Burns Park Players), Feb. 2, 3, 9, & 10
- People Dancing, Feb. 4
- *Birth of a Ho' Ass Nation* (Pointless Theatre), Feb. 8 & 15
- *Edges* (Penny Seats), Feb. 8, 9, 11, & 14–16
- *The Pajama Game* (Huron High), Feb. 9–11
- *L'Elisir d'Amore* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), Feb. 10 & 14
- *Follies* (National Theatre broadcast), Feb. 11
- *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (U-M Musical Theatre), Feb. 15–18
- *You For Me For You* (U-M Theatre), Feb. 15–18
- *Or*, (Kickshaw), every Thurs.–Sun., Feb. 15–Mar. 4
- *Porgy and Bess* (UMS), Feb. 17
- A2 Dhoon Bollywood dance contest, Feb. 18
- *SHEL* (Runyonland), Feb. 22 & 23
- *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Old Vic broadcast), Feb. 22
- *14* (U-M Theatre), Feb. 22

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- Chelsea Winter Carnival, Feb. 2 & 3
- "Yemanya, Queen of the Sea" festival, Feb. 3
- "Brick Bash," Feb. 10 & 11
- Winter Fleece Fair, Feb. 17
- Model Train Show & Sale, Feb. 17
- Dawn Dance Weekend, Feb. 23–25

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Poet Robin Coste Lewis & novelist Elif Batuman, Feb. 1
- Poet Molly Raynor, Feb. 4
- Novelist Yaa Gyasi, Feb. 6
- Poet Hieu Minh Nguyen & writer Nicholson Baker, Feb. 15
- Radio host Joshua Johnson, Feb. 15
- Novelist Jeff Kass, Feb. 16
- Novelist Thisbe Nissen, Feb. 20
- Poet Chris Glomski, Feb. 22
- Poets Katherine Edgren & Jennifer Burd and singer-songwriter Laszlo Slomovits, Feb. 28

Family & Kids' Stuff

- See *Kids 12 & Under*, p. 66, for most kids events.
- *Erik's Dinosaur Zoo Live!* (Not Just for Kids Series), Feb. 18
- Storytelling Festival family show, Feb. 25

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- "Creature Courtship," Feb. 9, 10, & 14

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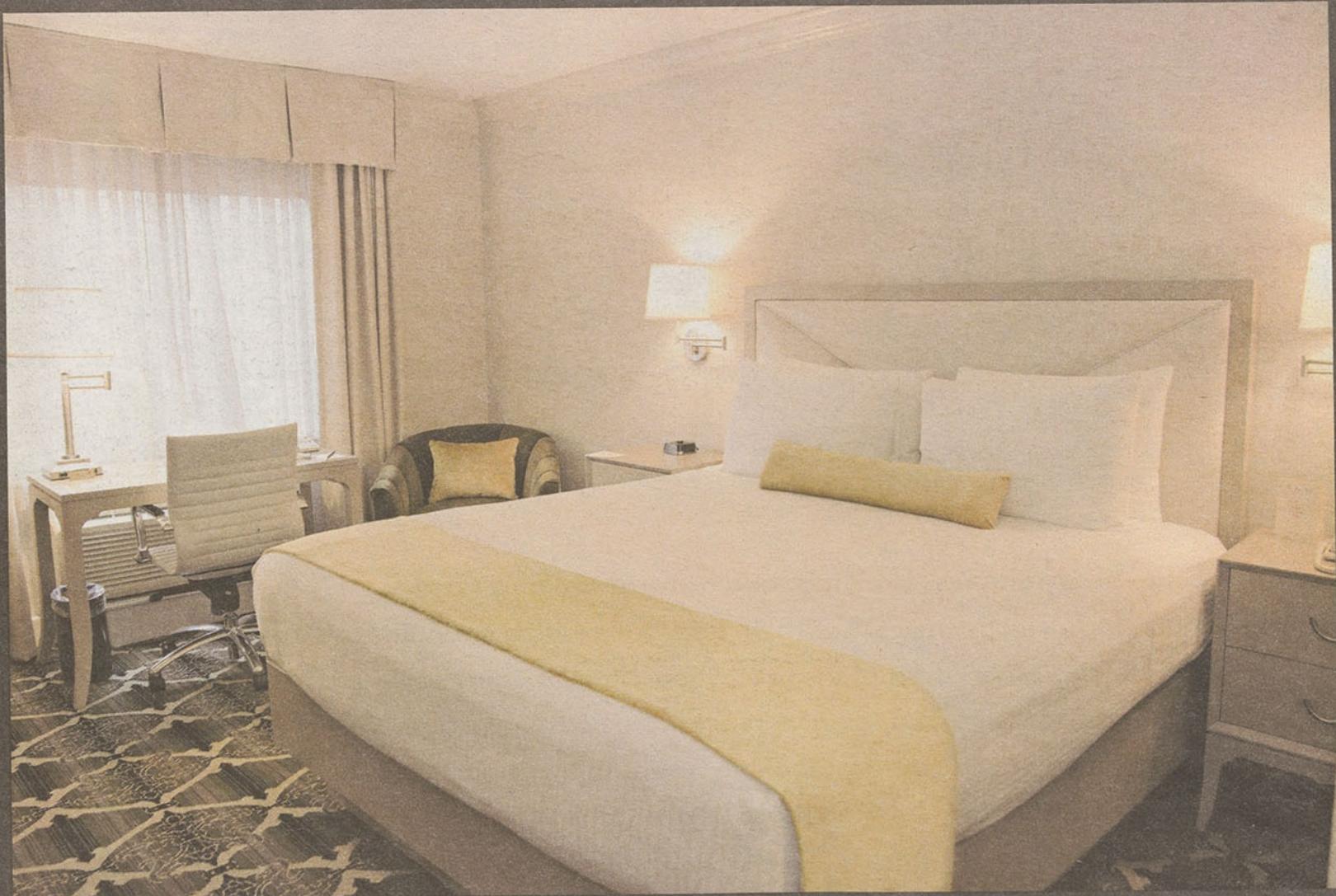
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